File	No.	170219

Committee Item N	No
Board Item No.	50

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CON	NTENTS	LIST
Committee: Board of Supervisors Meeting	Date: Date:	March 7, 2017
Cmte Board Motion	ter and/	
OTHER		
Prepared by: Brent Jalipa Prepared by:	Date: Date:	March 2, 2017

[Recognizing Problem Gambling Awareness Month - March]

Resolution recognizing March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, Gambling, in both legal and illegal forms, is becoming more omnipresent in our everyday lives, including through Daily Fantasy Sports, internet casinos, social media games, and sweepstakes cafes; and

WHEREAS, In 2016 Americans lost nearly \$117,000,000,000 at casinos, more than any other country; and

WHEREAS, Six to eight million Americans, including more than 1.2 million Californians, meet the criteria for problem gambling and, by their gambling behavior, negatively affect the lives of another 48 to 80 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling is defined as gambling behavior which causes disruption in any major areas of life: psychological, physical, social, vocational, health, spiritual or emotional; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling ("gambling disorder") has been classified recently by the American Psychiatric Association as an addiction with similarities to the causes and consequences of alcohol and drug dependence; and

WHEREAS, Behavioral signs of problem gambling include gambling to escape boredom, pain or loneliness, lying to loved ones to conceal the extent of gambling, needing to gamble with increasing amounts of money in order to achieve excitement, borrowing money to gamble, and trying repeatedly over time to win back money lost; and

WHEREAS, Americans gamble more money each year than they spend on groceries, betting upwards of \$900,000,000,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling is a public health issue impacting relationships, families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Populations at high risk for gambling problems includes seniors, youth, college students, veterans, African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos/Hispanics and Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, Only 15% of problem gamblers ever seek treatment; and WHEREAS, Numerous free resources, including self-help workbooks, phone-based counseling, individual counseling, support group counseling, residential care and a locally-based 24/7 helpline (1-888-968-7888) are now available for problem gamblers and affected individuals; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Department of Public Health – Community Behavioral Health Services (SFDPH–CBHS), in partnership with NICOS Chinese Health Coalition (NICOS), made the City and County of San Francisco one of the first municipalities in the nation to offer a problem gambling prevention program to its residents, beginning in 1998; and

WHEREAS, The NICOS problem gambling program model has been replicated nationwide; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco unanimously adopted a resolution declaring the month of March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco recognizes the outreach efforts by SFDPH-CBHS and NICOS to communities struggling with problem gambling; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco will continue to support outreach and treatment programs for problem gamblers, in addition to strengthening prevention strategies; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes the month of March of every year as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco.

Supervisors Yee; Safai, Kim BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

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Time stamp
or meeting date

hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):
1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Charter Amendment)
3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
☐ 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor inquires"
5. City Attorney request.
6. Call File No. from Committee.
7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).
8. Substitute Legislation File No.
9. Reactivate File No.
10. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on
Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission ote: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative Form. oonsor(s):
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ubject:
ecognizing March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month
he text is listed below or attached:
Lesolution recognizing March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:
or Clerk's Use Only:
170719