File	No.	180273

Committee Item	No.		
Board Item No.		47	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Prepared by: Jocelyn Wong Prepared by:	Date: March 29, 2018 Date:

[Recognizing Problem Gambling Awareness Month - March 2018]

Resolution recognizing March 2018 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, sports betting, and sweepstakes cafes; and

WHEREAS, In 2016 Americans lost nearly \$117 billion 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 billion annually; and

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

WHEREAS, The estimated national social cost to families and communities due to bankruptcy, divorce, job loss, home loss, and criminal justice costs associated with problem gambling is \$6.7 billion each year; 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 helpline (1-888-968-7888) are now available for problem gamblers and affected individuals; and

WHEREAS, 2018 marks the 14th consecutive year of a National Problem Gambling Awareness Month according to the National Council on Problem Gambling; 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, Since 2014, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco has unanimously adopted a resolution annually declaring the month of March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month; 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

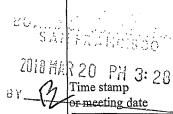
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco will continue to support outreach, education and treatment programs for problem gamblers, in addition to strengthening prevention strategies; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes the month of March 2018 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco.

Print Form

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor



i hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	
1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).	
2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.	
3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.	•
4. Request for letter beginning: "Supervisor	inquiries"
5. City Attorney Request.	
6. Call File No. from Committee.	
7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).	
8. Substitute Legislation File No.	
9. Reactivate File No.	
10. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	
Small Business Commission	
Sponsor(s):	·
Fewer, Yee	
Subject:	
Resolution recognizing March 2018 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and Count Francisco.	y of San
The text is listed:	
See attached.	
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	e Frais.