

1 [Recognizing Problem Gambling Awareness Month - March 2018]

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3 **Resolution recognizing March 2018 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City**  
4 **and County of San Francisco.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 WHEREAS, The estimated national social cost to families and communities due to  
4 bankruptcy, divorce, job loss, home loss, and criminal justice costs associated with problem  
5 gambling is \$6.7 billion each year; and

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

9 WHEREAS, Only 15% of problem gamblers ever seek treatment; and

10 WHEREAS, Numerous free resources, including self-help workbooks, phone-based  
11 counseling, individual counseling, support group counseling, residential care and a locally-  
12 based helpline (1-888-968-7888) are now available for problem gamblers and affected  
13 individuals; and

14 WHEREAS, 2018 marks the 14th consecutive year of a National Problem Gambling  
15 Awareness Month according to the National Council on Problem Gambling; and

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

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

22 WHEREAS, Since 2014, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
23 Francisco has unanimously adopted a resolution annually declaring the month of March as  
24 Problem Gambling Awareness Month; now, therefore, be it  
25

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

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

7           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes the month of March  
8 2018 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco.  
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City and County of San Francisco  
Tails  
Resolution

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 180273

Date Passed: April 03, 2018

Resolution recognizing March 2018 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco.

April 03, 2018 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Stefani, Tang and Yee

File No. 180273

I hereby certify that the foregoing  
Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/3/2018 by  
the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
County of San Francisco.

  
for Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

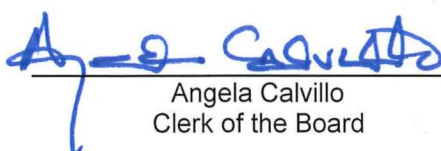
Unsigned

Mark E. Farrell  
Mayor

4/13/18

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

  
Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

4/13/18  
Date