

## 2013-K933

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2014 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in New York State

WHEREAS, Individuals across the country and in this State enjoy the recreational aspects of legalized gambling; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services reports that nearly one million New Yorkers are currently struggling with compulsive gambling issues; and

WHEREAS, The proliferation of gambling opportunities to New Yorkers continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling should be considered a public health issue affecting individuals of all ages, races and ethnic backgrounds in all communities and having a significant societal and economic cost; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling is treatable, and treatment is effective in minimizing the harm to both individuals and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Numerous individuals, professionals and organizations have dedicated their efforts to public awareness of problem gambling and the effectiveness of treatment; and

WHEREAS, The National Council on Problem Gambling is sponsoring the 12th Annual National Problem Gambling Awareness Week campaign, which seeks to educate the public about the impact of problem gambling and the availability of treatment options; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2014 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause further to urge the New York State Council on Problem Gambling to continue its outreach efforts and advocate that resources be available for the prevention and treat-

ment of problem gambling in this State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause further to urge all residents of this great Empire State to learn more about problem gambling and the programs available to help individuals and their families who have been adversely affected by this issue; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.