



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, the Empire State supports initiatives that raise awareness of the various forms of addiction which impact the lives of millions of New Yorkers, Americans, and people worldwide; we therefore join to recognize Problem Gambling Awareness Day in conjunction with the National Council on Problem Gambling's efforts to draw nationwide attention to problem gambling throughout the month of March; and

**Whereas**, problem gambling can affect New Yorkers of all ages, races, cultures, professions, and socioeconomic backgrounds; and

**Whereas**, this observance recognizes individuals in the problem gambling community who are committed to educating members of the public about available treatment and support services for individuals and families affected by problem gambling; and

**Whereas**, the Responsible Play Partnership, comprised of the New York State Gaming Commission, the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (NYS OASAS), and the New York Council on Problem Gambling, was formed to examine problem gambling and ways the addiction treatment system and gaming industry can improve their collaboration in addressing this issue; and

**Whereas**, through a new statewide educational effort – The Problem Gambling Training Partnership – NYS OASAS will partner with the New York Council on Problem Gambling and several New York State counseling practitioner groups and professional organizations to offer training to private treatment practitioners, so they can better recognize and treat individuals with problem gambling, and also provide support and assistance to their family members; and

**Whereas**, individuals, professionals, and organizations across New York State are committed to maintaining and strengthening their focus on educating the public about problem gambling, the effectiveness of efforts to prevent and mitigate problem gambling, and the availability of treatment services; and

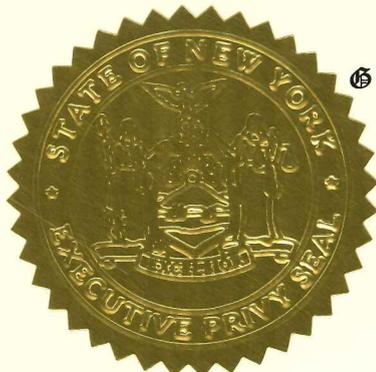
**Whereas**, New Yorkers who are affected, or at risk of being affected by problem gambling, can benefit from the State's toll-free HOPEline telephone referral service, available at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) / Text HOPENY (Short Code 467369), where clinically trained professionals can make referrals to services 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

**Whereas**, the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services encourages all New Yorkers to join in supporting the goals of Problem Gambling Awareness Day and Month by participating in social media awareness through their social networks, and by visiting the NYS OASAS Facebook and Twitter pages to help spread the word that problem gambling is a public health issue that can be addressed through promotion of consistent prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts – and the support of our families, friends, and fellow New Yorkers;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 30, 2016 as

## PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS DAY

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-ninth day of March in the year two thousand sixteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor