

Assembly Resolution No. 157

BY: M. of A. Rosenthal L

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2017, 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 2017 Theme of the National Council on Program Gambling's Awareness Month is "Have the Conversation," which will focus on increasing public awareness of problem gambling and the availability of prevention, treatment and recovery services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2017, 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 treatment 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.