RESOLUTION OF THE NEW JERSEY CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION ACKNOWLEDGING MARCH AS PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, problem or disordered gambling is a significant public health issue which can destroy lives, devastate families and have serious economic and social costs for businesses and communities as well; and

WHEREAS, problem or disordered gambling is a hidden disease and does not have any of the outward manifestations as are seen with many other addictions and a result, is often overlooked and goes unnoticed by most people; and

WHEREAS, problem or disordered gambling is a public health threat that affects millions of Americans and does not discriminate based on age, race, gender, religious or ethnic background; and

WHEREAS, problem gambling is a treatable disease and proper management is invaluable in minimizing the harm to individuals, their families and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, promoting an awareness month provides an opportunity for the problem gambling community to educate the public and policymakers about the treatment and support services available for problem gamblers and the social and financial effectiveness of those services; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, through the Division of Gaming Enforcement operates a Self-Exclusion program and, through fees imposed on
casinos, the state provides financial support for the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey and its 24-hour-a-day 1-800-GAMBLER hotline; and

WHEREAS efforts by the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Gamblers Anonymous, and counselling and treatment programs all have significant positive impacts on gamblers, their families and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Governor Philip D. Murphy has designated March 2019 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the State of New Jersey and encourages all residents to help spread the message that there is help for problem gamblers through treatment as well as support for those who are in treatment for recovery and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Casino Control Commission supports Problem Gambling Awareness Month and hereby expresses its gratitude for the ongoing efforts of the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey to offer prevention, treatment and hope to those effected by problem gambling.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be placed in the record as a commemoration of our support and appreciation.

James T. Plousis, Chairman

Alisa B. Cooper, Vice Chair
Sharon A. Harrington, Commissioner