

Office of the Governor



JOHN BEL EDWARDS

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** problem gambling is a public health concern affecting millions of Americans of all ages, races and ethnic backgrounds in all communities causing a significant societal and economic cost; and
- WHEREAS,** promoting awareness provides individuals in the problem gambling community an opportunity to educate the public and policymakers about the social and financial effectiveness of services available for problem gambling; and
- WHEREAS,** problem gambling is treatable and treatment is effective in minimizing the harm to both individuals and society as a whole; and
- WHEREAS,** the state offers a myriad of services aimed at treating problem gambling, including: educational prevention programs, residential treatment, outpatient counseling and aftercare programs throughout the state, a toll-free Louisiana Problem Gamblers Helpline 1-877-770-STOP that answers calls from people seeking help with gambling problems, and a website aimed at the prevention of problem gambling; www.helpforgambling.org; and
- WHEREAS,** Louisiana was one of the first states to have numerous state-funded programs such as the residential treatment facility, Center of Recovery-CORE in Shreveport, for problem gamblers; and
- WHEREAS,** numerous organizations, such as the Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling, the Louisiana Lottery, the Louisiana Casino Association, the Louisiana Gaming Industry, the Office of the Attorney General, the State Police Gaming Division, and the Gaming Control Board all work together with the Louisiana Department of Health to address problem gambling; and
- WHEREAS,** numerous individuals, professionals and organizations have dedicated their efforts to the education of the public about problem gambling, prevention about problem gambling along with the availability and effectiveness of treatment services.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, **John Bel Edwards**, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim March 2023 as

PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH
in the State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 1st day of March A. D., 2023.

John Bel Edwards
Governor

