



PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
17106-9060

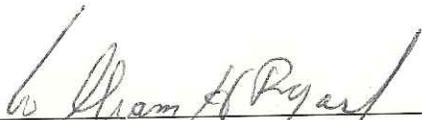
**Joint Statement of the Chairman of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and
Secretaries of the Pennsylvania Departments of Agriculture, Health and Revenue Supporting**

National Problem Gambling Awareness Week- March 4-10, 2012

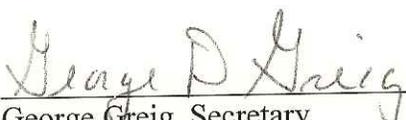
William H. Ryan, Jr., Chairman of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, George Greig, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Eli N. Avila, Secretary of the Department of Health and Daniel Meuser, Secretary of the Department of Revenue make this Joint Statement in support of National Problem Gambling Awareness Week, March 4-10, 2012.

Problem gambling is a public health issue affecting Pennsylvanians of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds in all communities and has a significant societal and economic cost. We are promoting the awareness week in an effort to educate the public and policymakers of Pennsylvania about the social and financial issues related to problem gambling and to highlight the fact that problem gambling is treatable and treatment is effective in minimizing the harm to both individuals and society as a whole.

We challenge individuals, professionals, and organizations to support efforts for the education of the public about problem gambling and the availability and effectiveness of treatment. We encourage all Pennsylvania citizens to help spread the message that there is help for problem gamblers through treatment, and to support those who are in treatment and recovery and their families.



William H. Ryan, Jr., Chairman
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



George Greig, Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture



Eli N. Avila, Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Health



Daniel Meuser, Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Revenue