

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the month of March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS**, research indicates that approximately 6 million American adults and an additional 1 million youth are addicted to gambling; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of adults and adolescents in Washington State have experienced severe gambling problems in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, public awareness and treatment have been proven to limit the rate of problem gambling and suicidal ideation in Washington and other states; and

**WHEREAS**, the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling is a nonprofit organization working to increase public awareness of problem gambling, train treatment providers and gambling industry personnel to address it, enhance the availability of treatment services for problem gamblers, and conduct youth-based prevention programs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that the mental health, primary care, treatment, and recovery communities join together with the gambling industry to increase public awareness of problem gambling, its high co-occurrence with anxiety and substance use disorders, and to take measures to address this addiction;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, VICTORIA R. WOODARDS**, Mayor of the City of Tacoma, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim March 2020 as

## **PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH**

in the City of Tacoma, and urge all residents to join me in this special observance.



**WITNESS, THEREFORE, MY HAND  
AND THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE  
CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON**  
This 10th day of March 2020.

*Victoria R. Woodards*  
**VICTORIA R. WOODARDS, Mayor**

