PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, problem gambling is a public health concern affecting millions of Americans of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds 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 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, LORENZ WALKER, Mayor of the City of Bossier City, do hereby proclaim March 2021, as,

"PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH"

and encourage all citizens of Bossier City to 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.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed.

Lorenz "Lo" Walker
Mayor, City of Bossier City