



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, PRAIRIE MEADOWS IS A VIABLE PART OF IOWA'S ECONOMY AND HAS ADDED VALUE TO POLK COUNTY'S ENTERTAINMENT AND TOURISM INDUSTRY, ATTRACTING OVER 2.5 MILLION VISITORS PER YEAR; AND

WHEREAS, OVER 1,400 EMPLOYEES RECEIVE EXCELLENT WAGES AND BENEFITS, INVESTING A TOTAL ANNUAL PAYROLL AND BENEFITS OF \$53 MILLION INTO THE COUNTY'S ECONOMY; OVER \$21.5 MILLION IS ANNUALLY CONTRIBUTED TO A WIDE ARRAY OF CIVIC, GOVERNMENT AND CHARITABLE CAUSES; THE PRAIRIE MEADOWS "BUY IOWA" PROGRAM RESULTS IN OVER \$40 MILLION A YEAR INVESTED IN PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FROM IOWA BUSINESSES; MORE THAN \$46.2 MILLION IN ANNUAL STATE TAXES ARE PAID TO SUPPORT CITY, COUNTY AND STATE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS; AND

WHEREAS, PRAIRIE MEADOWS IS COMMITTED TO RESPONSIBLE GAMING AND SUPPORTING A PREMIER PROGRAM FOR AWARENESS, PREVENTION AND TREATMENT, AND THE GAMING INDUSTRY WISHES TO DEVELOP AN ALLIANCE TO CURB PROBLEM GAMBLING THAT WILL INCLUDE GROUPS ALSO INVOLVED IN RESPONSIBLE GAMING EFFORTS; AND

WHEREAS, PRAIRIE MEADOWS AND THE OTHER 16 MEMBERS OF THE IOWA GAMING ASSOCIATION HAVE DESIGNATED AUGUST 4 - 8, 2008, AS IOWA RESPONSIBLE GAMING EDUCATION WEEK TO ADVOCATE ITS OPPOSITION TO UNDERAGE, UNAUTHORIZED AND UNREGULATED FORMS OF GAMBLING, AND PROMOTE ITS VOLUNTEER TRESPASS AND EMPLOYEE TRAINING PROGRAMS TO ASSIST THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO NEED ASSISTANCE; AND

WHEREAS, PRAIRIE MEADOWS PROMOTES RESPONSIBLE GAMING BY PROVIDING OVER \$944,000 ANNUALLY TO THE GAMBLERS ASSISTANCE FUND, ORGANIZES AND PARTICIPATES IN THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARENESS RESOURCE EXPO, AND DONATES MONEY TO THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESPONSIBLE GAMING.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE WEEK OF AUGUST 4 - 8, 2008, AS:

RESPONSIBLE GAMING EDUCATION WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA TO BE AFFIXED THIS TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF JULY, TWO THOUSAND EIGHT.

T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, MAYOR
CITY OF DES MOINES

