

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
84R20263 GCB-F

C.S.S.B. 397
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Veteran Affairs & Military Installations
4/9/2015
Committee Report (Substituted)

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

In 2009, the veterans' assistance lottery game was created as one of the primary sources of revenue for the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA). According to TVC, 245 grants totaling \$39 million have been awarded from this fund to date, benefiting over 179,000 Texas veterans. Funds are used to provide direct services to Texas veterans and their families for a broad range of needs. The veterans' assistance lottery game is the only lottery game in Texas that directly benefits veterans.

S.B. 397 requires the Texas Lottery Commission to spend an equal or greater amount of its marketing and advertising budget for the promotion of this game as it does for any other instant-ticket lottery game that the commission operates. (Original Author's / Sponsor's Statement of Intent)

C.S.S.B. 397 amends current law relating to the marketing and advertising of the veterans' assistance lottery game.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 466.027, Government Code, by adding Subsections (d-1) and (f) and amending Subsection (e), as follows:

(d-1) Requires the Texas Lottery Commission (commission) to produce and place printed point-of-sale advertising materials promoting the lottery game operated under this section at each licensed location that provides appropriate, lottery-dedicated space to display the materials.

(e) Requires the commission to include on the commission's Internet website a dedicated page that:

(1) features the game operated under this section;

(2) provides information on the benefits provided to veterans through funding from the game; and

(3) is accessible by a prominent link on the main page of the commission's website.

(f) Creates this subsection from existing text.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2015.