

By: Lucio III

H.B. No. 2541

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to funding for apprenticeship training programs through a lottery game.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 466, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 466.0271 to read as follows:

Sec. 466.0271. APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM GAME. (a)

The commission shall operate an instant-ticket lottery game to benefit apprenticeship training programs funded under Chapter 133, Education Code.

(b) The commission shall:

(1) determine the ticket price, payout amounts, and manner in which the game is conducted;

(2) make tickets to the game available for sale continuously to the extent practicable; and

(3) change the design or theme of the game regularly to ensure that the game remains competitive with other instant-ticket lottery games offered by the commission.

(c) The commission shall market and advertise the lottery game operated under this section in a manner intended to inform the public that the game tickets are available for purchase and that the game proceeds are used to fund apprenticeship training programs in this state. The Texas Workforce Commission may make recommendations to the Texas Lottery Commission relating to the

1 marketing and advertising of the game.

2 (d) The commission shall encourage each sales agent that
3 sells tickets to instant-ticket games or similar types of lottery
4 games to sell tickets to the game operated under this section.

5 (e) An organization otherwise eligible to receive money
6 from the state lottery account attributable to a lottery game
7 authorized by this section may not receive the money if the
8 organization conducts illegal gambling or operates illegal
9 gambling devices as defined by Chapter 47, Penal Code, or allows the
10 conduct of illegal gambling or the operation of illegal gambling
11 devices on its property or in its facilities.

12 SECTION 2. Section 466.355(b), Government Code, is amended
13 to read as follows:

14 (b) Money in the state lottery account may be used only for
15 the following purposes and shall be distributed as follows:

16 (1) the payment of prizes to the holders of winning
17 tickets;

18 (2) the payment of costs incurred in the operation and
19 administration of the lottery, including any fees received by a
20 lottery operator, provided that the costs incurred in a fiscal
21 biennium may not exceed an amount equal to 12 percent of the gross
22 revenue accruing from the sale of tickets in that biennium;

23 (3) the establishment of a pooled bond fund, lottery
24 prize reserve fund, unclaimed prize fund, and prize payment
25 account; and

26 (4) the balance, after creation of a reserve
27 sufficient to pay the amounts needed or estimated to be needed under

1 Subdivisions (1) through (3), to be transferred on or before the
2 15th day of each month as follows:

3 (A) the portion of the balance attributable to
4 the lottery game operated under Section 466.027 to the fund for
5 veterans' assistance established by Section 434.017; ~~and~~

6 (B) the portion of the balance attributable to
7 the lottery game under Section 466.0271 to an account in the general
8 revenue fund to be appropriated to the Texas Workforce Commission
9 to support apprenticeship training programs in accordance with
10 Chapter 133, Education Code; and

11 (C) the remainder to the foundation school fund.

12 SECTION 3. (a) Section 466.355(b), Government Code, as
13 amended by this Act, applies only to a transfer from the state
14 lottery account made on or after January 1, 2018.

15 (b) The Texas Lottery Commission shall establish and begin
16 selling tickets to the lottery game as required by Section
17 466.0271, Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than
18 January 1, 2018.

19 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
20 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
21 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
22 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
23 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.