

By: Hall, Middleton, Perry

S.B. No. 79

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to a lottery game played or facilitated for play by
3 telephone or through an Internet or mobile Internet application;
4 creating criminal offenses.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 466.015(b), Government Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 (b) The commission shall adopt rules to the extent they are
9 not inconsistent with Chapters 551 and 552 governing the:

10 (1) security for the lottery and the commission,
11 including the development of an internal security plan;

12 (2) apportionment of the total revenues from the sale
13 of tickets and from all other sources in the amounts provided by
14 this chapter;

15 (3) enforcement of prohibitions on the sale of tickets
16 to or by an individual younger than 18 years of age; and

17 (4) enforcement of prohibitions on a person playing or
18 facilitating the play of a lottery game by telephone or through an
19 Internet application or mobile Internet application in violation of
20 Section 466.318.

21 SECTION 2. Subchapter G, Chapter 466, Government Code, is
22 amended by adding Section 466.318 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 466.318. PLAY OR FACILITATING PLAY BY TELEPHONE OR BY
24 INTERNET OR MOBILE INTERNET APPLICATION. (a) A person may not by

1 telephone or through an Internet application or mobile Internet
2 application:

3 (1) purchase or order the purchase of a ticket for a
4 lottery game; or

5 (2) for compensation:

6 (A) accept an order for a ticket for a lottery
7 game from a player;

8 (B) sell a ticket for a lottery game to a player;

9 or

10 (C) arrange:

11 (i) to purchase a ticket on behalf of a
12 person playing a lottery game; or

13 (ii) for another person to purchase a
14 ticket on behalf of a person playing a lottery game.

15 (b) A person commits an offense if the person violates this
16 section.

17 (c) An offense under Subsection (a)(1) is a Class C
18 misdemeanor.

19 (d) An offense under Subsection (a)(2) is a Class A
20 misdemeanor.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.