

- SUBJECT:** Allowing lottery game drawings to be held on Sundays
- COMMITTEE:** Licensing and Administrative Procedures — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 11 ayes — S. Thompson, Kuempel, Darby, Ellzey, Fierro, Geren, Goldman, Guillen, Hernandez, Huberty, Pacheco
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Syed Shamsie; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Robert Howden, Texans for a Strong Economy)
- Against — Rob Kohler, Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Ryan Mindell, Texas Lottery Commission)
- BACKGROUND:** Government Code sec. 466.015(c) allows the Texas Lottery Commission to adopt rules governing the establishment and operation of the lottery, including the frequency of the drawing or selection of a winning ticket.
- Government Code ch. 466 specifies that a portion of revenue from lottery ticket sales and unclaimed prizes, after certain other distributions are made, must be transferred to the Foundation School Fund.
- DIGEST:** HB 394 would require the Texas Lottery Commission to adopt rules permitting a lottery game drawing to be held on a Sunday. The commission would have to adopt these rules by January 1, 2022.
- The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2021.
- SUPPORTERS** HB 394 would generate significant revenue for small business owners, the

SAY: state, and the Foundation School Fund by allowing lottery drawings to occur on Sundays. Currently, lottery tickets can be purchased every day of the week. Allowing lottery game drawings to occur every day of the week as well would be a logical extension of current lottery operations in Texas. Increased revenue from new lottery drawings would help small business owners selling lottery tickets and help fund education in the state.

CRITICS
SAY: No concerns identified.

NOTES: According to the Legislative Budget Board, the bill would result in a positive impact of about \$27.6 million through fiscal 2022-23.