

# Texas Lottery® Retailer Support

June 24, 2019

## Frequently Asked Questions – Legislative Update

### How do recent state legislation and budgetary decisions affect the Texas Lottery?

**The 86<sup>th</sup> legislative regular session concluded on Monday, May 27, 2019. The following are bills and budgetary decisions related to the administration of the lottery that have been enacted.**

**HB 833 by Representative Ana Hernandez:** authorizes the creation of a statewide alert system for missing military members.

**HB 1769 by Representative Greg Bonnen:** authorizes the creation of a statewide alert system for missing adults and a study of the alert system.

These alerts are in addition to the current AMBER, Silver, Blue and Endangered Person alerts broadcast via electronic displays at lottery retailer locations.

### **Decisions impacting the FY 2020-21 Texas Lottery budget are as follows:**

**Advertising:** budget reduced by a total of \$15.0 million, or 30%, over the next two years.

**Retailer Bonus:** The previous legislative session (85<sup>th</sup>) zeroed out the \$4.2 million retailer bonus appropriation for **FY 2019 (September 1, 2018-August 31, 2019)**. The 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature restored funding for retailer bonuses at a reduced appropriation of \$2.0 million per year. The Texas Lottery is in the process of developing a new bonus structure to account for the FY 20-21 appropriation. The Retailer Bonus Program is used for bonus payments to retailers for selling certain prize-winning tickets.

***This budgetary item does not apply to the Retailer Cash Incentive Program.***

**Other Lottery Budget Reductions:** additional administrative and program reductions of \$500,000 over the biennium cover various areas within the Commission's budget.



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