



M E M O R A N D U M

Date: June 20, 2019

To: California State Lottery Commission

From: Nicole Soluri, Chief Deputy Director *NS* [Initials on file]

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Subject: Item 8(h) - Interagency Agreement with the Department of Public Health's Office of Problem Gambling

ISSUE

The California State Lottery (Lottery) continues to improve its responsible gaming programs through the promotion of the 1-800-GAMBLER helpline, among other efforts. The two-year Interagency Agreement (IA) with the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) Office of Problem Gambling (OPG) in the amount of \$278,160 will expire on June 30, 2019.

BACKGROUND

The Lottery established California's first problem gambling helpline in 1998. The helpline transitioned to OPG (within the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs) in 2008 and was thereafter known as the statewide Problem Gambling Helpline, or 1-800-GAMBLER (Helpline). The Lottery has been party to Interagency Agreements with OPG for Helpline-related services since 2008.

The IA provides for maintenance of the Helpline, reporting on Helpline data, development of appropriate literature for distribution to Helpline clients and Lottery retailers, assistance drafting articles for Lottery publications and content for Lottery newsletters and websites, training of Lottery staff, and additional programs that aid players with problem gambling issues.

DISCUSSION

Entering into a new problem gambling prevention services IA with the OPG enables the Lottery to work directly with the state's problem gambling experts, gain insights from their research, and work collaboratively in the promotion of the Helpline.

The Lottery promotes free problem gambling treatment services provided by the OPG through the Helpline. The Helpline number and other responsible gaming messages can be found on Lottery tickets, playslips, marketing campaigns, social media channels, and other Lottery communications.

RECOMMENDATION

Lottery staff recommends that the California State Lottery Commission approve a new two-year IA with the CDPH for problem gambling prevention services provided by the OPG, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021. The maximum authorized contract expenditure amount is \$278,160.