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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Two Jackpots Combine for \$1.39 Billion This Weekend The CA Lottery Reminds Players to “Play It Safe”

SACRAMENTO – The *Mega Millions* jackpot is \$750 million, and the *Powerball* jackpot is \$640 million, combining to an estimated \$1.39 billion.

As these jackpots continue to climb, the California Lottery reminds players planning to buy tickets to play it safe by purchasing tickets during essential shopping trips at authorized retail locations and following all public health guidelines.

Another way to minimize risk while playing is to take advantage of the **Advance Play®** feature that allows players to play the same numbers for multiple draws with one purchase. Participants can pay for and play up to 10 consecutive draws on one playslip by simply marking the *Advance Play* box or asking for it upon purchase. This way, players can continue to play without having to make additional trips.

As interest continues to build, the Lottery would also like to remind players to stay aware and alert as they play California Lottery games to avoid becoming a victim of fraud. Scammers may try to use fraudulent accounts, fake phone calls, emails, texts and even social media messaging to try to take advantage of Lottery players. We want to remind the public that **the California Lottery does not sell tickets online, by phone, or through text messages.**

The Lottery will not call players to inform them that they won a prize, nor will a player be asked to pay fees or taxes upfront to claim. Most importantly, if a person did not buy a ticket, they cannot win a lottery prize. If a person is contacted by a “lottery” claiming that they won a prize, but they never purchased a ticket, **it is a scam.** For any questions or concerns, please call 1800-LOTTERY or download the [California Lottery mobile app](#).

Mega Millions draws are Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. PT. **Sales close at 7:45 p.m., so players must buy their tickets by then to qualify for this evening's draw.**

Powerball draws happen Wednesdays and Saturdays at 7:59 p.m. PT. **Sales close at 7 p.m. for this game, so players must buy their tickets by then to qualify for the draw.**

The California Lottery has more than 23,000 retail partners, most of which are essential businesses and still open in accordance with state and local public health guidelines. Please visit the California Lottery [website](#) for more information.

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The California Lottery's mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transfers to public education total approximately \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2018-19, which amounts to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely non-discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period the Lottery generated almost \$7 billion in sales, more than 95% of which goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. The California Lottery urges its customers to play responsibly. Problem gambling resources are available to anyone at 1-800-GAMBLER.

www.calottery.com