

## PRESS RELEASE

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July 30, 2022

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## No Mega Jackpot Winner in California, But Ticket Worth \$4.2+ Million Sold in Fresno!

## Mega Millions® Billion-dollar Run Comes to an End With California Schools Still Winning Big

**SACRAMENTO** – One lucky California Lottery player came ever so close to hitting the jackpot, falling short just one important number. The person who bought it, though, still has more than 4 million reasons for a mega smile today. That one ticket, sold at the Vons on North Cedar Avenue in Fresno, is now worth more than \$4.2 million!

The Mega Millions jackpot ended up increasing to nearly \$1.4 billion once all sales figures were finalized across the U.S., and *only one ticket in the entire country* hit all six <u>winning numbers</u>, which were 13, 36, 45, 57, 67 and Mega number 14. The single jackpot-winning ticket was sold in Illinois.

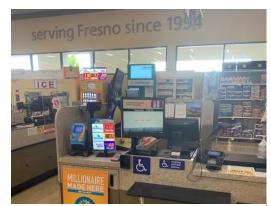
Thanks to this jackpot sequence, which had been rolling since April, Mega Millions sales skyrocketed, resulting in a windfall for California's public schools. California's sales for this Mega Millions run totaled \$309.7 million up until the time of Friday night's draw. The average sales for Mega Millions in California typically total about \$1 million per day; by comparison, on Friday, the California Lottery saw a one-day total of approximately \$66 million. The amount raised for public education in California from this rolling 30-draw sequence is estimated to be an incredible \$123.9 million!

"Even though we didn't wind up having a jackpot-winner in California, we have a lot to celebrate with all this Mega Millions excitement," said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. "Not only do we have a new millionaire-in-the-making with the Fresno ticket, but there were also more than 2 million winning tickets at all the prize levels across our state, not to mention all the money we raised for public schools – something the California Lottery team is quite proud to work hard toward every, single day."

The Vons in Fresno, which sold the ticket now worth \$4+ million, already has celebratory signs hanging throughout the store to tout the big win.



A sign reading 'Millionaire Made Here' hangs on the entrance to Vons in Fresno; picture taken Saturday, July 30, 2022



More signs reading 'Millionaire Made Here' hang throughout the Vons store in Fresno where someone bought a ticket now worth millions; picture taken Saturday, July 30, 2022

The California Lottery will not know who bought the lucky ticket until someone comes forward to <u>claim</u> the <u>prize</u>. Vons gets a bonus of more than \$21,000 for selling the winning ticket.

The next Mega Millions draw happens Tuesday, with a starting jackpot of \$20 million.

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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 transferred to public education totaled more than \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2020-21, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely 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 \$8.4 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money intended for other purposes can ultimately lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800- GAMBLER.

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