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

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Mega Millions® Jackpot Reaches \$660 Million!

CA Lottery Reminds Players Not To Buy Tickets Online or With an App

SACRAMENTO – The Mega Millions® estimated jackpot climbed to a staggering \$660 million for tonight's drawing. Tonight's jackpot is the third largest in Mega Millions history and the ninth largest in U.S. lottery history.

As the jackpot climbs, so too do sales. The California Lottery exists solely to raise extra money for public education, and this jackpot run alone has already generated an additional estimated \$59 million for schools.

The Lottery also wants to remind players that the **only safe way to play** is by purchasing tickets in person at one of the more than [23,000 locations](#) that sell Lottery games across the state. App-based and online ticket resellers and delivery services are unregulated and unauthorized in California. Online ticket ordering services are not vetted, approved, or regulated in California, so the Lottery cannot ensure the safety, security, and integrity of these services. Furthermore, gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play or spending more on Lottery tickets than someone can afford can lead to significant problems. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem, they can call the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.

Mega Millions draws take place Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. Draw entry closes at 7:45 p.m. on the day of the draw. The odds of winning the [Mega Millions](#) jackpot are one in 302,575,350, and the odds for winning any prize are 1 in 24.

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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.

