

PRESS RELEASE

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California Lottery Commission Approves Exciting Enhancements to Mega Millions®, Aimed at Raising More Money for Public Education

Bigger jackpots, better odds, and built-in multipliers will increase prizes at every level starting this April

SACRAMENTO – The California Lottery Commission today approved new regulations related to enhancements coming this April to *Mega Millions*. California – along with more than 40 other states – participates in *Mega Millions*, which features drawings for millions of dollars every Tuesday and Friday.

Among the enhancements, players will benefit from:

- Bigger jackpots more frequently
- Improved odds to win the jackpot and other prizes
- Larger starting jackpots
- Faster growing jackpots
- A built-in multiplier on every play, automatically improving every non-jackpot win by 2X, 3X, 4X, 5X, or 10X
- No breakeven prizes, meaning when a player wins, they'll always win more than the cost of the ticket

With more attractive features for players, the changes are designed to yield higher sales, which – in turn – allows the California Lottery to raise even <u>more supplemental funding for public education</u> in line with its mission.

When the new game launches in April, tickets will cost \$5 per play. From every \$5 *Mega Millions* ticket sold in California, approximately \$2 will be funneled to public schools.



The California Lottery just celebrated its <u>first-ever billion-dollar Mega Millions jackpot</u> win. The lucky ticket – the only one in the entire country to match all six numbers for the December 27 drawing – came from a Circle K just off Interstate 5 in the small town of Cottonwood, in Shasta County. The winner has up to one year from the date of the draw to come forward and <u>claim the prize</u>.

The mission of the California Lottery is to raise additional funding for public education, helping to supplement school budgets for K-12 as well as colleges and universities. **The California Lottery has raised more than \$46 billion for public schools** through the responsible sale of its games since 1985. Lottery funding for schools is largely discretionary, so administrators and educators can use Lottery money for instructional programs and services they may not otherwise afford. The California Lottery features eight draw games and dozens of new instant <u>Scratchers</u> games each year. More than 95% of California Lottery sales revenue goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, <u>retailer commissions and bonuses</u>, and contributions to education. More information about who benefits can be found <u>here</u>. California Lottery is also committed to promoting <u>responsible gaming</u>. Anyone who shows signs of a gambling problem, or knows someone who does, can get free, confidential help by calling the CA Problem Gambling Hotline at 1-800-GAMBLER.

