



## POLICY BRIEF | HB 991 LOTTERY GAMES

The Florida Lottery urges customers to “Play Responsibly” on some of their games and encourages those who see the signs of addiction to seek help, but it does not do enough to address the risks of gambling. **HB 991** provides a policy solution.

**HB 991 (Robinson) LOTTERY GAMES:** ensures that Floridians are encouraged to exercise good judgment when playing the Florida Lottery and further clarifies that the Florida Lottery can offer only traditional, paper-based lottery games.

- Many people who play state lottery games have below-average income. Even a small chance to win large sums of money presents a compelling incentive to the poor that can easily turn into a problem.
- Because of this, it is important to build in protections for the poor and prone to addiction.
- Under **HB 991**, all lottery tickets and advertisements must include the message “Play Responsibly.” While the message is already widely used by the Florida Lottery, the bill would codify it in statute and specify where and how it must appear.
- The bill also calls for the Florida Lottery to make an annual payment of \$500,000 to a private organization that provides people prevention measures for compulsive or addictive gambling.
- Additionally, any Florida Lottery game involving the activities or outcomes of sports events will be prohibited.
- The bill clarifies that the use of electronic devices to play lottery games is prohibited.

### Frequently asked question about HB 991:

**Q:** Is this the same lottery bill seen in the 2019 Session that was ultimately vetoed by the governor?

**A:** No, *HB 991 does not implement the same warning label requirements from 2019. The bill simply brings uniformity to lottery games by requiring the message “Play Responsibly” on all games and advertisements.*

Please refer to [bill text](#) and [staff analysis](#) for further information.