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TEXAS LOTTERY COMMISSION VOTES TO PUBLISH *POWERBALL*® RULE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

(Austin) – The Texas Lottery Commission today voted 3-0 in favor of publishing a *Powerball*® game rule in the *Texas Register* in order to receive public comment. Comments on the proposed rule may be submitted to Pete Wassdorf, Assistant General Counsel, by mail at Texas Lottery Commission, P.O. Box 16630, Austin, Texas 78761-6630; by facsimile at (512) 344-5189; by email at legal.input@lottery.state.tx.us; or by visiting the Texas Lottery web site at www.txlottery.org and following a link to the previously noted email address. The Commission will also hold a public hearing and accept comments on this proposal at 1 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2009, at 333 Guadalupe Street, Room 102, Tower III, Austin, Texas 78701. Comments must be received within 30 days after publication of this proposal in order to be considered.

During today's meeting, lottery staff presented the proposed rule for the three-member Commission's consideration, followed by a staff recommendation to the Commission to publish the rule for public comment.

"Today was another step towards bringing *Powerball* to Texas lottery players and generating additional revenue for the Foundation School Fund," said Texas Lottery Deputy Executive Director Gary Grief. "We estimate that by adding *Powerball* to the Texas Lottery 'game mix,' an additional \$35 million per year could be generated for the Foundation School Fund."

"The cross-selling of *Mega Millions*® and *Powerball* in Texas has been a subject of discussion at the Commission since 2003, when the agency joined *Mega Millions*," Grief added. "The agency was originally given the legislative authority to join more than one multi-jurisdictional game and

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(Texas Lottery Commission News Release, continued)

the agency has continued to explore that option over time. It is exciting to see the initiative moving forward.”

Both games are multi-jurisdictional games with the potential to reach extremely high jackpot amounts. The largest advertised jackpot for *Powerball* was \$365 million in 2006, while the \$370 million *Mega Millions* jackpot record was set in March 2007. *Mega Millions* is currently played in 12 states, including Texas, with a total population of approximately 161 million. Thirty-one state lotteries, the District of Columbia and the U.S Virgin Islands currently participate in *Powerball*, with a total population of approximately 130 million.

For more information on *Mega Millions*, *Powerball* or the Texas Lottery, please visit www.megamillions.com, www.powerball.com, or www.txlottery.org.

[Proposed Rule and Comment](#)

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