## TEXAS LOTTERY COMMISSION News Release

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## **MEGA MILLIONS® GAME IS ABOUT TO GET BIGGER!**

(AUSTIN) – Beginning Oct. 19, lottery players can buy tickets for a *Mega Millions*<sup>®</sup> game that features larger starting jackpots, faster growing jackpots, a million-dollar second prize and better odds of winning any prize—all for the same \$1 players now pay.

"We think that players will respond favorably to the new *Mega Millions* changes and expect even greater sales for the game," said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery<sup>®</sup>.

Sales for the Texas Lottery's draw games, which include *Mega Millions*, totaled more than \$1.15 billion in fiscal year 2013, contributing to record sales and revenue and to last year being the 10th consecutive year that the Texas Lottery generated more than \$1 billion for the state.

"Enthusiastic sales for *Mega Millions* and our other draw games help us continue to produce record results and increased funding for public education," said Grief.

Starting with the Oct. 22 drawing, *Mega Millions* players will see a minimum jackpot increase from \$12 million to \$15 million, and jackpots will grow by at least \$5 million after each drawing in which the jackpot is not won.

In addition to larger minimum jackpots, changes to the game include:

- The second tier prize for matching the first five numbers drawn will increase from \$250,000 to \$1 million.
- Faster growing jackpots.
- The *Megaplier*<sup>®</sup>, a multiplier option which players can purchase for an additional \$1 to increase their non-jackpot prizes, will be expanded so that a *Mega Millions* ticket can win up to \$5 million without matching all six numbers.
- Better odds of winning any prize.

(more)

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Mega Millions drawings will still consist of five white balls and one gold Mega Ball, for a total of six winning numbers. The number of white balls will increase to 75 and the number of gold balls (the Mega Ball) will decrease to 15. The result is overall odds of just one in 15 to win any prize. The odds of hitting the jackpot are one in 259 million.

Changes to the Mega Millions game matrix were last made in June 2005. Mega Millions is currently played in 45 jurisdictions: 43 states plus Washington, D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Drawings are Tuesday and Friday evenings at 11:00 Eastern Time, 10:00 Central Time, 9:00 Mountain Time and 8:00 Pacific Time. Profits from every Mega

Mega Millions Prize Structure		
Match	Base Prize	Odds: 1 in
5 + Mega Ball	JACKPOT	258,890,850
5 (no Mega Ball)	\$1 million	18,492,204
4 + Mega Ball	\$5,000	739,688
4 (no Mega Ball)	\$500	52,835
3 + Mega Ball	\$50	10,720
3 (no Mega Ball)	\$5	766
2 + Mega Ball	\$5	473
1 + Mega Ball	\$2	56
0 + Mega Ball	\$1	21

overall chances of winning a prize: 1 in 14.7

Millions ticket sold remain in the state in which the ticket was sold. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.megamillions.com">www.megamillions.com</a>.

## **About the Texas Lottery**

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$21 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$41 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$15 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas. As authorized by the Texas Legislature, certain Texas Lottery revenues benefit state programs including the Fund for Veterans' Assistance.

The Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including  $Powerball^{\otimes}$ , Mega Millions,  $Lotto\ Texas^{\otimes}$ ,  $All\ or\ Nothing^{^{TM}}$ ,  $Texas\ Two\ Step^{\otimes}$ ,  $Pick\ 3^{TM}$ ,  $Daily\ 4^{TM}$ ,  $Cash\ Five^{\otimes}$  and scratch-offs. For more information visit us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>YouTube</u> or at <u>www.txlottery.org</u>.