

**Texas Lottery Commission** 

PO Box 16630 Austin, Texas 78761-6630

FAX: (512) 344-5490

## **NEWS**

from the Texas Lottery Commission

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** 

Thursday, March 23, 2006

**CONTACT:** 

Leticia Vásquez, 512-344-5208 Media Relations, 512-344-5131

## 2005 CHARITABLE BINGO GROSS RECEIPTS TOP \$633.6 MILLION, SIXTH LARGEST-EVER YEAR SINCE 1982

(AUSTIN) – Non-profit organizations across Texas that conduct charitable bingo games reaped significant gains during calendar year 2005, bringing in just over \$633.6 million or 4.8 percent more in gross receipts than in 2004.

"Calendar year 2005 was the sixth-highest year for gross receipts since we started keeping records in 1982, and \$29.1 million above the 2004 figure of \$604.5 million," said Billy Atkins, director of the charitable bingo division of the Texas Lottery Commission. "The gross receipts are a clear indicator of bingo's popularity, and they also tell the story of why there was a notable rise in total prizes. Prizes in 2005 were \$471,390,751, \$26.8 million more than in 2004."

Most of the 1,265 non-profits that conduct charitable bingo games to raise money for their charitable causes also sell pull-tabs.

For more information about charitable bingo, please visit the official Texas charitable bingo Web site at http://www.txbingo.org

• • •