

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - January 8, 2002

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## Lottery Commission Considers *Pick 3* Mid-Day Drawing

(Austin, January 8) - - Today, the Texas Lottery Commission authorized the initial step of adding the first ever day drawing to the Texas Lottery family of online games. The proposal for a *Pick 3* mid-day drawing was approved for publication in the Texas Register, and will be available for public comment for a minimum of 30 days afterward.

"Today is a preliminary step toward the Texas Lottery adding a *Pick 3* mid-day drawing," said Linda Cloud, Texas Lottery Executive Director. "By adding the additional drawing, we'll produce multiple benefits for everyone. Our lottery retailers will benefit with increased traffic in their stores, which translates to increased sales. Our players will benefit with more chances to win with playing a game they love. The State of Texas benefits with increased revenue."

*Pick 3*, the Texas Lottery's second online introduced in 1993, has consistently experienced an increase in sales every year since its inception. The following table shows sales totals from startup for each Fiscal Year (FY):

Year	Sales Amount
FY 93	Startup on October 25
FY 94	\$133,242,909
FY 95	\$141,077,588
FY 96	\$145,217,209
FY 97	\$158,549,126
FY 98	\$180,259,546
FY 99	\$183,658,933
FY 00	\$195,192,187
FY 01	\$206,756,647
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,343,954,145</b>

Out of the 34 states, plus the District of Columbia, in the U.S. that participate in a *Pick 3*-style game, 12 of those also participate in a mid-day drawing.

"We're projecting up to a six percent increase in total sales for each year," said Cloud. "That translates into approximately \$4.6 million in added revenue for the state."

There will be no changes to the way *Pick 3* is currently played. Players will still select three numbers each from 0 to 9, with four choices for how they can play their 3-digit combination (Exact Order, Any Order, Exact/Any Order or Combo). Cost to play will remain as little as 50 cents for a single Exact or Any Order play, or as much as \$360 on a Combo play where the numbers are played for twelve draws.

If the Texas Lottery decides to adopt the rules after the public comment period, the new *Pick 3* mid-day draw would begin in late spring 2002. There will be a public hearing to discuss the proposed rules on February 8, 2002, at lottery headquarters in Austin.

Currently, Texas' *Pick 3* sales lead all U.S. lotteries west of the Mississippi River.