

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 108

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain lottery prize winners' choice to remain anonymous.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 466.015, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1) The commission shall adopt rules governing nondisclosure of the identity of certain lottery prize winners under Section 466.411.

SECTION 2. Section 466.022(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) In addition to commission records excepted from disclosure under Chapter 552, the following information is confidential and is exempt from disclosure:

(1) security plans and procedures of the commission designed to ensure the integrity and security of the operation of the lottery;

(2) information of a nature that is designed to ensure the integrity and security of the selection of winning tickets or numbers in the lottery, other than information describing the general procedures for selecting winning tickets or numbers; ~~and~~

(3) the street address and telephone number of a prize winner, if the prize winner has not consented to the release of the information; and

1           (4) except as otherwise authorized by Section 466.411,  
2 all personally identifiable information of a natural person who is:

3                   (A) a lottery prize winner and who has chosen to  
4 remain anonymous under Section 466.411; or

5                   (B) an owner of a beneficial interest in a legal  
6 entity that is a lottery prize winner and who has chosen to remain  
7 anonymous under Section 466.411.

8           SECTION 3. Subchapter I, Chapter 466, Government Code, is  
9 amended by adding Section 466.411 to read as follows:

10           Sec. 466.411. CHOICE BY CERTAIN PRIZE WINNERS TO REMAIN  
11 ANONYMOUS. (a) A natural person who is a prize winner of a lottery  
12 prize in an amount equal to \$1 million or more or who is an owner of  
13 a beneficial interest in a legal entity that is a prize winner of a  
14 lottery prize in an amount equal to \$1 million or more may choose to  
15 remain anonymous and prohibit all personally identifiable  
16 information from being released to the public.

17           (b) For purposes of this section, the amount of a lottery  
18 prize is the total amount of prize money paid to a prize winner for a  
19 single lottery prize claim, whether paid in one payment or in  
20 periodic installments, before deducting any federal tax  
21 withholdings or other deductions required by law.

22           (c) This section does not prohibit release of a prize  
23 winner's city or county of residence or prevent the commission from  
24 releasing personally identifiable information as required under  
25 Sections 466.407 or 466.4075 or to the Health and Human Services  
26 Commission.

27           SECTION 4. (a) Not later than December 1, 2015, the Texas

1 Lottery Commission shall adopt the rules and procedures necessary  
2 to implement the changes in law made by this Act to Chapter 466,  
3 Government Code.

4 (b) Section 466.411, Government Code, as added by this Act,  
5 applies only to an initial claim for a lottery prize in an amount  
6 equal to \$1 million or more that is submitted to the Texas Lottery  
7 Commission on or after January 1, 2016.

8 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.