

By Representative Edwards

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the lottery; amending s.
3 24.115, F.S.; providing for reducing prize
4 amounts under certain circumstances; providing
5 duties of the Department of the Lottery;
6 providing an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (1) of
11 section 24.115, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, to read:

12 24.115 Payment of prizes.--

13 (1) The department shall promulgate rules to establish
14 a system of verifying the validity of tickets claimed to win
15 prizes and to effect payment of such prizes; however:

16 (h) The department shall investigate each claimant of
17 a prize of \$600 or more to determine if the claimant received
18 any public assistance during the 10-year period preceding the
19 claim. If a claimant received such public assistance, the
20 department shall reduce the amount of the prize by the lesser
21 of one half of the amount of the prize or the total amount of
22 such public assistance. The department shall transfer the
23 amount by which a prize is reduced under this paragraph to the
24 agency which provided the public assistance to the claimant,
25 to be deposited by such agency into the agency's trust fund
26 established for purposes of providing public assistance.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides for reducing any lottery prize of \$600 or more by the lesser of the total amount of any public assistance received by the claimant during the 10-year period preceding the claim or one half of the prize.