By Senator Collins

14-01313-23 2023660

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to state lottery funding for veterans' assistance education programs; amending s. 24.103, F.S.; defining the term "veterans' assistance education programs"; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; requiring the Department of the Lottery to create an instant-ticket lottery game that benefits veterans' assistance education programs; amending s. 24.121, F.S.; providing that veterans' assistance education programs may be funded by the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund; amending s. 24.1215, F.S.; requiring the department to provide certain information to the public; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Present subsections (2), (4), and (5) of section 24.103, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5), (2), and (4), respectively, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

24.103 Definitions.—As used in this act:

(7) "Veterans' assistance education programs" means programs that provide education and training opportunities for veterans.

Section 2. Subsection (20) is added to section 24.105, Florida Statutes, to read:

24.105 Powers and duties of department.—The department shall:

(20) Establish an instant-ticket lottery game that benefits

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veterans' assistance education programs. The ticket of any such lottery game must contain notice that the game proceeds will be used to benefit veterans' assistance education programs.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 24.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 24.121 Allocation of revenues and expenditure of funds for public education.—
- (5) (a) Public educational programs and purposes funded by the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund may include, but are not limited to, endowment, scholarship, matching funds, direct grants, research and economic development related to education, salary enhancement, contracts with independent institutions to conduct programs consistent with the state master plan for postsecondary education, veterans' assistance education programs, or any other educational program or purpose deemed desirable by the Legislature. Before Prior to the expenditure of these funds, each school district shall establish policies and procedures that define enhancement and the types of expenditures consistent with that definition.

Section 4. Section 24.1215, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 24.1215 Duty to inform public of lottery's significance to education.—The Department of the Lottery shall inform the public about:
- (1) The significance of lottery funding <u>in general</u> to the state's overall system of public education.
- (2) The significance of lottery funding for veterans' assistance education programs.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.