

By Senator Rodriguez

40-00927-25

2025896__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to state lotteries; amending s.
3 20.317, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring the
4 compensation of the Secretary of the Department of the
5 Lottery to be set annually by the Governor; amending
6 s. 24.103, F.S.; defining terms; revising the
7 definition of the term "major procurement"; amending
8 s. 24.105, F.S.; revising and providing rules that the
9 department must adopt governing the establishment and
10 operation of the state lottery; deleting obsolete
11 provisions; amending s. 24.108, F.S.; revising
12 requirements for studies and evaluations of security
13 in the operation of the department; amending s.
14 24.111, F.S.; making technical changes; amending s.
15 24.112, F.S.; increasing the amount of a lottery
16 retailer bond; authorizing a lottery retailer to remit
17 funds to the department for deposit in a specified
18 bank account in lieu of such bond; authorizing the use
19 of a debit card in a vending machine to purchase a
20 lottery ticket; authorizing the department to act as a
21 courier service and contract with a third party to
22 provide such service; requiring all courier services
23 to have a written agreement with retailers which
24 conforms to certain requirements and rules;
25 authorizing courier services to store lottery tickets
26 for customers in lieu of delivery if certain
27 requirements are met; requiring such courier services
28 to maintain a secure database of all stored lottery
29 tickets and provide specified notice of a winning

40-00927-25

2025896__

30 ticket within a certain timeframe; authorizing such
31 courier services to redeem winning tickets valued at
32 less than a certain amount; prohibiting a portion or
33 percentage of such winning tickets from being charged,
34 accepted, given, or paid to such courier services;
35 providing construction; repealing s. 24.113, F.S.,
36 relating to minority participation; amending s.
37 24.116, F.S.; providing an exception to the
38 prohibition on officers or employees of the department
39 purchasing a lottery ticket; creating s. 24.1173,
40 F.S.; prohibiting a courier service from operating
41 without a written agreement with a retailer which
42 conforms to certain requirements and rules; providing
43 a criminal penalty; amending s. 24.118, F.S.; revising
44 provisions relating to other prohibited acts;
45 prohibiting certain false claims and theft of lottery
46 tickets by lottery retailers, courier services, or
47 employees; providing criminal penalties; amending ss.
48 24.119, 24.120, 24.1215, and 24.124, F.S.; making
49 technical changes; providing an effective date.

50
51 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

52
53 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
54 20.317, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

55 20.317 Department of the Lottery.—There is created a
56 Department of the Lottery.

57 (1) (a) The head of the Department of the Lottery is the
58 Secretary of the Department of the Lottery. The secretary shall

40-00927-25

2025896__

59 be appointed by the Governor, subject to the confirmation of the
60 Senate, and. ~~The secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the~~
61 ~~Governor. The compensation of the secretary shall be set~~
62 ~~annually by executive order of the Governor.~~

63 Section 2. Present subsections (1) through (6) of section
64 24.103, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)
65 through (9), respectively, new subsections (1), (2), and (3) are
66 added to that section, and present subsection (2) of that
67 section is amended, to read:

68 24.103 Definitions.—As used in this act:

69 (1) "Ball machine" means a device that mechanically mixes a
70 set of numbered balls and randomly draws balls from that mixed
71 set to determine the winning numbers for a specific game.

72 (2) "Courier service" means a person or an entity that
73 purchases a lottery ticket on behalf of another person located
74 in this state and delivers the ticket to the person in this
75 state as a for-profit service.

76 (3) "Debit card" means a card issued by a financial
77 institution to a consumer for use in initiating an electronic
78 funds transfer from a demand deposit, savings deposit, or other
79 asset account of the consumer at the financial institution.

80 (5)-(2) "Major procurement" means a procurement for a
81 contract for the printing of tickets for use in a ~~any~~ lottery
82 game, ~~consultation services for the startup of the lottery,~~ any
83 goods or services involving the official recording for lottery
84 game play purposes of a player's selections in any lottery game
85 involving player selections, any goods or services involving the
86 receiving of a player's selection directly from a player in any
87 lottery game involving player selections, any goods or services

40-00927-25

2025896__

88 involving the drawing, determination, or generation of winners
89 in a ~~any~~ lottery game, the security report services provided for
90 in this act, or any goods and services relating to marketing and
91 promotion which exceed a value of \$25,000.

92 Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (9), subsection
93 (17), and paragraph (d) of subsection (18) of section 24.105,
94 Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraphs (k) and (l) are
95 added to subsection (9) of that section, to read:

96 24.105 Powers and duties of department.—The department
97 shall:

98 (9) Adopt rules governing the establishment and operation
99 of the state lottery, including:

100 (d) The method of selecting winning tickets. However, if a
101 lottery game involves the use of a ball machine to conduct a
102 drawing, the drawing must ~~shall~~ be public and witnessed by an
103 accountant employed by an independent certified public
104 accounting firm. The equipment used in the drawing must ~~shall~~ be
105 inspected before and after the drawing.

106 (k) The method of payment for the purchase of a lottery
107 ticket.

108 (l) The operation of a courier service, including minimum
109 contract requirements between the courier service and the person
110 using such service.

111 (17) Have the authority to enter into agreements with other
112 states for the operation and promotion of a multistate lottery
113 if such agreements are in the best interest of the state
114 lottery. ~~The authority conferred by this subsection is not~~
115 ~~effective until 1 year after the first day of lottery ticket~~
116 ~~sales.~~

40-00927-25

2025896__

117 (18) Employ division directors and other staff as may be
118 necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; however:

119 (d) The department shall establish and maintain a personnel
120 program for its employees, including a personnel classification
121 and pay plan which may provide any ~~or all~~ of the benefits
122 provided in the Senior Management Service or Selected Exempt
123 Service. Each officer or employee of the department shall be a
124 member of the Florida Retirement System. The retirement class of
125 each officer or employee is ~~shall be~~ the same as other persons
126 performing comparable functions for other agencies. Employees of
127 the department ~~shall~~ serve at the pleasure of the secretary and
128 are ~~shall be~~ subject to suspension, dismissal, reduction in pay,
129 demotion, transfer, or other personnel action at the discretion
130 of the secretary. Such personnel actions are exempt from ~~the~~
131 ~~provisions of~~ chapter 120. All employees of the department are
132 exempt from the Career Service System provided in chapter 110
133 and, notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ s. 110.205(5), are not
134 included in either the Senior Management Service or the Selected
135 Exempt Service. However, all employees of the department are
136 subject to all standards of conduct adopted by rule for career
137 service and senior management employees pursuant to chapter 110.
138 In the event of a conflict between standards of conduct
139 applicable to employees of the department, ~~of the Lottery~~ the
140 more restrictive standard applies ~~shall apply~~. Interpretations
141 as to the more restrictive standard may be provided by the
142 Commission on Ethics upon request of an advisory opinion
143 pursuant to s. 112.322(3)(a). For purposes of this subsection,
144 the opinion constitutes ~~shall be considered~~ final action.

145 Section 4. Subsections (2) through (7) of section 24.108,

40-00927-25

2025896__

146 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

147 24.108 Division of Security; duties; security report.—

148 (2) (a) The director and all investigators employed by the
149 division shall meet the requirements for employment and
150 appointment provided by s. 943.13 and shall satisfy the
151 requirements for certification established by the Criminal
152 Justice Standards and Training Commission pursuant to chapter
153 943.

154 (b) The director and all ~~such~~ investigators employed by the
155 division shall be designated law enforcement officers and shall
156 have the power to investigate and arrest for any alleged
157 violation of this act or any rule adopted pursuant to this act
158 ~~thereto~~, or any law of this state. The ~~Such~~ law enforcement
159 officers may enter upon any premises in which lottery tickets
160 are sold, manufactured, printed, or stored within this ~~the~~ state
161 for the performance of their lawful duties and may take with
162 them any necessary equipment, and such entry does ~~shall~~ not
163 constitute a trespass.

164 (c) ~~If In any instance in which~~ there is reason to believe
165 that a violation has occurred, law enforcement ~~such~~ officers
166 have the authority, without warrant, to search and inspect any
167 premises where the violation is alleged to have occurred or is
168 occurring. Any such officer may, consistent with the United
169 States and Florida Constitutions, seize or take possession of
170 any papers, records, tickets, currency, or other items related
171 to any alleged violation.

172 (3) The Department of Law Enforcement shall, at the request
173 of the Division of Security, perform full criminal background
174 investigations on all employees of the department ~~of the Lottery~~

40-00927-25

2025896__

175 at the level of secretary, division director, or bureau chief
176 and at any level within the Division of Security, including
177 applicants for employment. The department ~~of the Lottery~~ shall
178 reimburse the Department of Law Enforcement for the actual costs
179 of such investigations.

180 (4) (a) The division shall conduct such investigations of
181 vendors, retailers, and employees of the department, including
182 applicants for contract or employment, as are necessary to
183 ensure the security and integrity of the operation of the state
184 lottery.

185 (b) The department may require persons subject to such
186 investigations to provide ~~such~~ information, including
187 fingerprints, as is needed by the Department of Law Enforcement
188 for processing or as is otherwise necessary to facilitate access
189 to state and federal criminal history information.

190 (5) (a) The Department of Law Enforcement shall provide
191 assistance in obtaining criminal history information relevant to
192 investigations required for honest, secure, and exemplary
193 lottery operations, and such other assistance as may be
194 requested by the secretary and agreed to by the executive
195 director of the Department of Law Enforcement.

196 (b) Any other state agency or commission, ~~including the~~
197 ~~Department of Business and Professional Regulation and the~~
198 ~~Department of Revenue~~, shall, upon request, provide the
199 department ~~of the Lottery~~ with any information relevant to any
200 investigation conducted pursuant to this act. The department ~~of~~
201 ~~the Lottery~~ shall maintain the confidentiality of any
202 confidential information it receives from any other state agency
203 or commission.

40-00927-25

2025896__

204 (c) The department ~~of the Lottery~~ shall reimburse a any
205 state agency or commission for the actual cost of providing any
206 assistance pursuant to this subsection.

207 (6) The division shall monitor ticket validation and
208 lottery drawings when ball machines are used.

209 (7) (a) Every 2 years ~~After the first full year of sales of~~
210 ~~tickets to the public, or sooner if the secretary deems~~
211 ~~necessary~~, the department shall engage an independent firm
212 experienced in security procedures, including, but not limited
213 to, computer security and systems security, to conduct a
214 comprehensive study and evaluation of all aspects of security in
215 the operation of the department.

216 (b) The portion of the security report containing the
217 overall evaluation of the department in terms of each aspect of
218 security must ~~shall~~ be presented to the Governor, the President
219 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
220 The portion of the security report containing specific
221 recommendations is ~~shall be~~ confidential and may ~~shall~~ be
222 presented only to the secretary, the Governor, and the Auditor
223 General; however, upon certification that such information is
224 necessary for the purpose of effecting legislative changes, such
225 information must ~~shall~~ be disclosed to the President of the
226 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who may
227 disclose such information to members of the Legislature and
228 legislative staff as necessary to effect such purpose. However,
229 any person who receives a copy of such information or other
230 information which is confidential pursuant to this act or rule
231 of the department must ~~shall~~ maintain its confidentiality. The
232 confidential portion of the report is exempt from ~~the provisions~~

40-00927-25

2025896__

233 ~~of~~ s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

234 ~~(c) Thereafter, similar studies of security shall be~~
235 ~~conducted as the department deems appropriate but at least once~~
236 ~~every 2 years.~~

237 Section 5. Present subsections (3) through (7) of section
238 24.111, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5)
239 through (9), respectively, new subsections (3) and (4) are added
240 to that section, and subsection (2) of that section is amended,
241 to read:

242 24.111 Vendors; disclosure and contract requirements.-

243 (2) The department shall investigate the financial
244 responsibility, security, and integrity of each vendor with
245 which it intends to negotiate a contract for major procurement.
246 Such investigation may include an investigation of the financial
247 responsibility, security, and integrity of any of the ~~or all~~
248 persons whose names and addresses are required to be disclosed
249 pursuant to paragraph (a). A ~~Any~~ person who submits a bid,
250 proposal, or offer as part of a major procurement must, at the
251 time of submitting such bid, proposal, or offer, provide the
252 following:

253 (a) A disclosure of the vendor's name and address and, as
254 applicable, the name and address and any additional disclosures
255 necessary for an investigation of the financial responsibility,
256 security, and integrity of the following:

257 1. If the vendor is a corporation, the officers, directors,
258 and each stockholder in such corporation; except that, in the
259 case of owners of equity securities of a publicly traded
260 corporation, only the names and addresses of those known to the
261 corporation to own beneficially 5 percent or more of such

40-00927-25

2025896__

262 securities need be disclosed.

263 2. If the vendor is a trust, the trustee and all persons
264 entitled to receive income or benefit from the trust.

265 3. If the vendor is an association, the members, officers,
266 and directors.

267 4. If the vendor is a partnership or joint venture, all of
268 the general partners, limited partners, or joint venturers.

269 If the vendor subcontracts any substantial portion of the work
270 to be performed to a subcontractor, the vendor must ~~shall~~
271 disclose all of the information required by this paragraph for
272 the subcontractor as if the subcontractor were itself a vendor.

273 (b) A disclosure of all the states and jurisdictions in
274 which the vendor does business and of the nature of that
275 business for each such state or jurisdiction.

276 (c) A disclosure of all the states and jurisdictions in
277 which the vendor has contracts to supply gaming goods or
278 services, including, but not limited to, lottery goods and
279 services, and of the nature of the goods or services involved
280 for each such state or jurisdiction.

281 (d) A disclosure of all the states and jurisdictions in
282 which the vendor has applied for, has sought renewal of, has
283 received, has been denied, has pending, or has had revoked a
284 gaming license or contract of any kind and of the disposition of
285 such in each such state or jurisdiction. If any gaming license
286 or contract has been revoked or has not been renewed or any
287 gaming license or contract application has been either denied or
288 is pending and has remained pending for more than 6 months, all
289 of the facts and circumstances underlying this failure to
290 receive such a license must be disclosed.

40-00927-25

2025896__

291 (e) A disclosure of the details of any conviction or
292 judgment of a state or federal court of the vendor of any felony
293 or any other criminal offense other than a traffic violation.

294 (f) A disclosure of the details of any bankruptcy,
295 insolvency, reorganization, or ~~any~~ pending litigation of the
296 vendor.

297 (g) Such additional disclosures and information as the
298 department may determine to be appropriate for the procurement
299 involved.

300 ~~(h) The department shall lease all vending machines that
301 dispense online lottery tickets, instant lottery tickets, or
302 both online and instant lottery tickets.~~

303 ~~(i) The department will require a performance bond for the
304 duration of the contract.~~

305

306 The department may ~~shall~~ not contract with any vendor that ~~who~~
307 fails to make the disclosures required by this subsection, and
308 any contract with a vendor that ~~who~~ has failed to make the
309 required disclosures is ~~shall be~~ unenforceable. Any contract
310 with any vendor that ~~who~~ does not comply with such requirements
311 for periodically updating such disclosures during the tenure of
312 such contract as may be specified in such contract may be
313 terminated by the department. This subsection must ~~shall~~ be
314 construed broadly and liberally to achieve the ends of full
315 disclosure of all information necessary to allow for a full and
316 complete evaluation by the department of the competence,
317 integrity, background, and character of vendors for major
318 procurements.

319 (3) The department shall lease all vending machines that

40-00927-25

2025896__

320 dispense online and instant lottery tickets.

321 (4) The department shall require a performance bond for the
322 duration of the contract.

323 Section 6. Subsections (9) and (13) and paragraph (a) of
324 subsection (15) of section 24.112, Florida Statutes, are
325 amended, and subsection (16) is added to that section, to read:

326 24.112 Retailers of lottery tickets; authorization of
327 vending machines to dispense lottery tickets; authorization of
328 courier services.—

329 (9) (a) The department may require every retailer to post an
330 appropriate bond as determined by the department, using an
331 insurance company acceptable to the department, in an amount not
332 to exceed three times ~~twice~~ the average lottery ticket sales of
333 the retailer for the period within which the retailer is
334 required to remit lottery funds to the department. For the first
335 90 days of sales of a new retailer, the amount of the bond may
336 not exceed twice the average estimated lottery ticket sales for
337 the period within which the retailer is required to remit
338 lottery funds to the department. This paragraph does ~~shall~~ not
339 apply to lottery tickets that ~~which~~ are prepaid by the retailer.

340 (b) In lieu of such bond, the department may:

341 1. Purchase blanket bonds covering all or selected
342 retailers. ~~or may~~

343 2. Allow a retailer to deposit and maintain with the Chief
344 Financial Officer securities that are interest bearing or
345 accruing and that, with the exception of those specified in sub-
346 subparagraphs a. and b. ~~subparagraphs 1. and 2.~~, are rated in
347 one of the four highest classifications by an established
348 nationally recognized investment rating service. Securities

40-00927-25

2025896__

349 eligible under this subparagraph are ~~paragraph shall be~~ limited
350 to:

351 ~~a.1.~~ Certificates of deposit issued by solvent banks or
352 savings associations organized and existing under the laws of
353 this state or under the laws of the United States and having
354 their principal place of business in this state.

355 ~~b.2.~~ United States bonds, notes, and bills for which the
356 full faith and credit of the government of the United States is
357 pledged for the payment of principal and interest.

358 ~~c.3.~~ General obligation bonds and notes of any political
359 subdivision of the state.

360 ~~d.4.~~ Corporate bonds of any corporation that is not an
361 affiliate or subsidiary of the depositor.

362 3. Allow a retailer to remit funds to the department for
363 deposit in a department-held interest-bearing bank account.
364

365 Such securities must ~~shall~~ be held in trust and must ~~shall~~ have
366 at all times a market value at least equal to an amount required
367 by the department.

368 (13) Each retailer shall provide accessibility for disabled
369 persons on habitable grade levels. This subsection does not
370 apply to a retail location which has an entrance door threshold
371 more than 12 inches above ground level. As used in this
372 subsection herein and for purposes of this subsection only, the
373 term "accessibility for disabled persons on habitable grade
374 levels" means that retailers shall provide ramps, platforms,
375 aisles and pathway widths, turnaround areas, and parking spaces
376 to the extent these are required for the retailer's premises by
377 the particular jurisdiction where the retailer is located.

40-00927-25

2025896__

378 Accessibility is ~~shall be~~ required to only one point of sale of
379 lottery tickets for each lottery retailer location. The
380 requirements of this subsection are ~~shall be~~ deemed to have been
381 met if, in lieu of the foregoing, disabled persons can purchase
382 tickets from the retail location by means of a drive-up window,
383 provided the hours of access at the drive-up window are not less
384 than those provided at any other entrance at that lottery
385 retailer location. Inspections for compliance with this
386 subsection must ~~shall~~ be performed by those enforcement
387 authorities responsible for enforcement pursuant to s. 553.80 in
388 accordance with procedures established by those authorities.
389 Those enforcement authorities shall provide to the department ~~of~~
390 ~~the Lottery~~ a certification of noncompliance for any lottery
391 retailer not meeting such requirements.

392 (15) A vending machine may be used to dispense ~~online~~
393 ~~lottery tickets, instant lottery tickets, or both~~ online and
394 instant lottery tickets.

395 (a) The vending machine must:

396 1. Dispense a lottery ticket after a purchaser inserts a
397 coin, ~~or~~ currency, or debit card in the machine.

398 2. Be capable of being electronically deactivated for a
399 period of 5 minutes or more.

400 3. Be designed to prevent its use for any purpose other
401 than dispensing a lottery ticket.

402 (16) (a) The department may act as a courier service. The
403 department may also contract with a third party to provide
404 courier services in this state.

405 (b) All courier services must have a written agreement with
406 one or more retailers which conforms to the requirements of this

40-00927-25

2025896__

407 section and any rule adopted by the department.

408 (c) In lieu of delivery of a purchased lottery ticket to a
409 customer using a courier service, a courier service may store a
410 ticket for a customer, with the customer's consent, if the
411 courier service provides an electronic receipt of the ticket
412 purchased with the numbers of the ticket shown on the receipt. A
413 customer using a courier service must have the option at all
414 times to obtain the ticket for the purpose of redemption. A
415 courier service storing a ticket for a customer shall maintain a
416 secure database of all stored lottery tickets, linked to the
417 respective customers. The courier service shall notify the
418 customer of a winning ticket value and maximum prize within 24
419 hours after a drawing.

420 (d) A courier service may redeem a winning ticket valued at
421 less than \$600 on behalf of its customers in a manner that is
422 secure for the customer and transparent to the public.

423 (e) Any portion or percentage of lottery winnings may not
424 be charged, accepted, given, or made payable to a courier
425 service as a fee for the purchase, delivery, or redemption of a
426 ticket.

427 (f) The operation of a courier service under this
428 subsection does not constitute a violation of s. 24.105, s.
429 24.117, or s. 24.118.

430 Section 7. Section 24.113, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

431 Section 8. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 24.116,
432 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

433 24.116 Unlawful purchase of lottery tickets; penalty.—

434 (1) A ~~Ne~~ person who is less than 18 years of age may not
435 purchase a lottery ticket; however, this does ~~shall~~ not prohibit

40-00927-25

2025896__

436 the purchase of a lottery ticket for the purpose of making a
437 gift to a minor.

438 (2) An ~~Ne~~ officer or employee of the department, or any
439 relative living in the same household with such officer or
440 employee, may not purchase a lottery ticket. However, an officer
441 or employee of the department who is a sworn law enforcement
442 officer within the Division of Security may purchase a lottery
443 ticket when such purchase is necessary for the performance of
444 his or her official duties as part of an investigation.

445 (3) An ~~Ne~~ officer or employee of any vendor under contract
446 with the department for a major procurement, relative living in
447 the same household with such officer or employee, or immediate
448 supervisor of such officer or employee may not purchase a
449 lottery ticket if the officer or employee is involved in the
450 direct provision of goods or services to the department or has
451 access to information made confidential by the department.

452 Section 9. Section 24.1173, Florida Statutes, is created to
453 read:

454 24.1173 Unlawful operation of courier services; penalty.-
455 Any courier service that operates without a written agreement
456 with a retailer, which agreement conforms to the requirements of
457 s. 24.112(16) and any rule adopted by the department, commits a
458 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
459 775.082 or s. 775.083.

460 Section 10. Present subsection (4) of section 24.118,
461 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6), a new
462 subsection (4) and subsection (5) are added to that section, and
463 subsection (3) of that section is amended, to read:

464 24.118 Other prohibited acts; penalties.-

40-00927-25

2025896__

- 465 (3) COUNTERFEIT OR ALTERED TICKETS.—Any person who:
- 466 (a) Knowingly presents a counterfeit or altered state
- 467 lottery ticket;
- 468 (b) Knowingly transfers a counterfeit or altered state
- 469 lottery ticket to another to present for payment; or
- 470 (c) With intent to defraud, falsely makes, alters, forges,
- 471 passes, or counterfeits a state lottery ticket; ~~or~~
- 472 ~~(d) Files with the department a claim for payment based~~
- 473 ~~upon facts alleged by the claimant which facts are untrue and~~
- 474 ~~known by the claimant to be untrue when the claim is made;~~
- 475
- 476 commits is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as
- 477 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- 478 (4) FALSE CLAIM.—A person may not, when presenting or
- 479 causing to be presented any claim for payment or approval to an
- 480 officer or employee of the department or to a lottery retailer,
- 481 knowingly and willfully:
- 482 (a) Falsify or conceal a material fact;
- 483 (b) Make any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or
- 484 representation relating to a material fact; or
- 485 (c) Make or use any false document, knowing the same to
- 486 contain any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry
- 487 relating to a material fact.
- 488
- 489 A person who violates this subsection commits a felony of the
- 490 third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083,
- 491 or s. 775.084.
- 492 (5) THEFT OF LOTTERY TICKET BY LOTTERY RETAILER, COURIER
- 493 SERVICE, OR EMPLOYEE.—A lottery retailer, a courier service, or

40-00927-25

2025896__

494 an employee who knowingly and willfully uses his or her position
495 to facilitate, participate in, or otherwise assist in the theft
496 of a lottery ticket from a retail establishment, courier
497 service, or patron or customer of the retail establishment or
498 courier service commits a felony of the third degree, punishable
499 as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

500 Section 11. Section 24.119, Florida Statutes, is amended to
501 read:

502 24.119 Use of word "lottery" in corporate name.—The
503 corporate name of a corporation may shall not contain the word
504 "lottery" unless the department ~~of the Lottery~~ approves such
505 name in writing.

506 Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 24.120, Florida
507 Statutes, is amended to read:

508 24.120 Financial matters; Operating Trust Fund; interagency
509 cooperation.—

510 (6) The department ~~of Management Services~~ may authorize a
511 sales incentive program for employees of the department for the
512 purpose of increasing the sales volume and distribution of
513 lottery tickets. Payments pursuant to the program may shall not
514 be construed to be lump-sum salary bonuses.

515 Section 13. Section 24.1215, Florida Statutes, is amended
516 to read:

517 24.1215 Duty to inform public of lottery's significance to
518 education.—The department ~~of the Lottery~~ shall inform the public
519 about the significance of lottery funding to the state's overall
520 system of public education.

521 Section 14. Section 24.124, Florida Statutes, is amended to
522 read:

40-00927-25

2025896__

523 24.124 Responsibility for ticket accuracy; department,
524 retailer, and vendor liability.—

525 (1) Purchasers of online games tickets are ~~shall be~~
526 responsible for verifying the accuracy of their tickets,
527 including the number or numbers printed on the tickets. In the
528 event of an error, the ticket may be canceled and a replacement
529 ticket issued pursuant to rules adopted ~~promulgated~~ by the
530 department ~~of the Lottery~~.

531 (2) Other than the issuance of a replacement ticket, there
532 is ~~shall be~~ no right or cause of action and no liability on the
533 part of the department, retailer, vendor, or any other person
534 associated with selling an online games ticket, with respect to
535 errors or inaccuracies contained in the ticket, including errors
536 in the number or numbers printed on the ticket.

537 Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.