



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

June 26, 2017

Secretary Ken Detzner
Secretary of State
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Secretary Detzner:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, under the provisions of Article III, Section 8, of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby veto and transmit my objection to Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill 937, enacted during the 119th Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2017 and entitled:

An act relating to Warnings for Lottery Games . . .

In 1986, Florida voters authorized the creation of the Florida Lottery through a constitutional amendment with the mission of maximizing revenues for public education in Florida. Over the past 29 years, the Lottery has made higher education possible for more than 750,000 students through Bright Futures scholarships and contributed to more than 800 school construction projects statewide. Since its creation, the Lottery has contributed more than \$31.6 billion to education, including more than \$1 billion annually in each of the past 15 years. These record transfers to education have been the direct result of innovative growth and partnerships with the nearly 8,000 retail partners throughout the state.

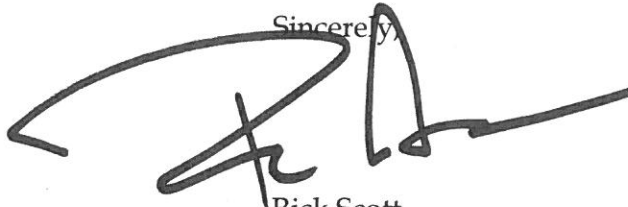
This bill imposes burdensome regulations on the Lottery and its retail partners, and many of the notice provisions are duplicative of current Lottery initiatives. Responsible gaming messaging has been and continues to be a critical component of the Lottery's successful "Play Responsible" program, and every ticket printed by the Lottery currently provides information regarding the state's confidential 24-hour multilingual helpline (888-ADMIT-IT). Additionally, the state budget for fiscal year 2017-18 contains \$1.25 million for compulsive gaming addiction prevention.

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Since becoming Governor, I have fought tirelessly to make higher education more affordable for Florida families. This bill is in direct conflict with the Lottery's constitutional mandate to maximize revenues and reduces the educational opportunities available to Florida families. According to the Revenue Estimating Conference, this bill could result in a reduction of \$31.5 million annually to education funding. For the reasons stated above, I withhold my approval of Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill 937, and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rick Scott", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Rick Scott
Governor