

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 992

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 4048



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by: (PS)

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AN ACT CONCERNING DELINQUENT LOTTERY SALES AGENTS AND DISCLOSURE OF THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF LOTTERY WINNERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 12-569 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
 - (a) (1) If the president of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation determines that any lottery sales agent has breached such agent's fiduciary responsibility to the corporation in that the account of such lottery sales agent with respect to moneys received from the sale of
- 7 lottery tickets has become delinquent in accordance with regulations
- 8 adopted under section 12-568a, the president shall notify the
- 9 commissioner of the breach of fiduciary duty and the commissioner
- shall impose a delinquency assessment upon such account equal to ten
- 11 per cent of the amount due or ten dollars, whichever amount is greater,
- 12 plus simple interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent of such
- 13 amount for each month or fraction of a month from the date such

14 amount is due to the date of payment.

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(2) A lottery sales agent whose account [was] is delinquent [prior to July 1, 2022, and whose delinquency assessment was subject to compounding interest on June 30, 2022, may apply to the commissioner on or after July 1, 2022, on or after July 1, 2023, may file an application with the president of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation for a hardship waiver to reduce the amount of interest delinquent, outstanding and payable. [to an amount based on simple interest.] Each lottery sales agent applying for a hardship waiver shall pay, with such application, an amount equal to all amounts due from such agent at the time of application, less the interest assessed in accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection, provided (A) the president may enter into a payment schedule permitting an agent to pay such amount over a period of time not to exceed one year, as determined by the president, if the president determines that an undue hardship exists which prevents such agent from paying such amount at the time of application, and (B) an agent who fails to pay such amount shall be ineligible for a hardship waiver pursuant to this subdivision. If the president determines that it would be beneficial to the state to do so, the president may reduce the amount of any interest delinquent, outstanding and payable by such agent, and may establish procedures for such reduction. In no event shall a hardship waiver result in a refund or credit of any amount of money, penalty or interest previously paid by such agent.

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(3) Subject to the provisions of section 12-3a, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided under this subsection when it is proven to the commissioner's satisfaction that the failure to pay such moneys to the state within the time allowed was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or due to neglect.

(4) Any such delinquent lottery sales agent shall be notified of such delinquency assessment and shall be afforded an opportunity to contest the validity and amount of such assessment before the commissioner who may conduct such hearing. Upon request of the president of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, the commissioner may prepare and sign a warrant directed to any state marshal, constable or any collection

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agent employed by the Connecticut Lottery Corporation for distraint upon any property of such delinquent lottery sales agent within the state, whether personal or real property. An itemized bill shall be attached to the warrant certified by the commissioner as a true statement of the amount due from such lottery sales agent. Such warrant shall have the same force and effect as an execution issued in accordance with chapter 906. Such warrant shall be levied on any real, personal, tangible or intangible property of such agent and sale made pursuant to such warrant in the same manner and with the same force and effect as a levy and sale pursuant to an execution.

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- 59 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with 60 chapter 54 to carry out the purposes of this section.
- Sec. 2. Section 12-742 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
 - (a) In cases where any person or entity is due a refund of state income taxes, and that same person owes a debt or obligation for which the Commissioner of Administrative Services is seeking reimbursement, the Commissioner of Revenue Services, upon notification by the Commissioner of Administrative Services, shall withhold the payment of said refund to such person or entity to the extent of such debt or obligation, provided the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall notify such debtor that he or she has the right to a hearing before an officer designated by the Commissioner of Administrative Services if he or she contests the validity or amount of the Commissioner of Administrative Services' claim, except that where the debt or obligation is a debt resulting from failure to pay an order for child support, the administrative review process will be held in accordance with subsection (e) of section 52-362e. If the debtor fails to apply in writing to the Commissioner of Administrative Services for a hearing within sixty days of the issuance of notice of withholding, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall remit the amount of the withheld refund to the Commissioner of Administrative Services. If the debtor elects an administrative hearing within this time, the Commissioner of Revenue

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Services shall remit the amount of the withheld refund in accordance with any decisions of the hearing officer or the court upon an appeal of the hearing officer's decision.

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85 (b) (1) In cases where any person or entity is due a refund of state 86 income taxes, and that same person is in default of a student loan made 87 or guaranteed by the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation or the 88 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority, the 89 Connecticut Student Loan Foundation or the Connecticut Higher 90 Education Supplemental Loan Authority, as appropriate, shall notify 91 the Commissioner of Administrative Services of such default. The 92 Commissioner of Revenue Services, upon notification by the 93 Commissioner of Administrative Services, shall withhold the payment 94 of said refund to such person to the extent of such default, provided the 95 Commissioner of Revenue Services shall notify such person in default 96 that he or she has the right to a hearing before an officer designated by 97 the Commissioner of Administrative Services if he or she contests the 98 validity or amount of the Commissioner of Administrative Services' 99 claim. If the person in default fails to apply in writing to the 100 Commissioner of Administrative Services for a hearing within sixty 101 days of the issuance of notice of withholding, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall remit the amount of the withheld refund to the 102 103 Commissioner of Administrative Services, who in turn shall remit the 104 amount of such withheld refund to the Connecticut Student Loan 105 Foundation or the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan 106 Authority, as appropriate. If the person in default elects an 107 administrative hearing within this time, the Commissioner of Revenue 108 Services shall remit the amount of the withheld refund in accordance 109 with any decisions of the hearing officer or the court upon an appeal of 110 the hearing officer's decision. If a person in default also owes a debt or 111 obligation described in subsection (a) of this section, the refund shall be 112 applied against such debt or obligation before being credited against the 113 amount of the default.

(2) The Commissioner of Revenue Services, the Commissioner of Administrative Services, the president of the Connecticut Student Loan

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116 Foundation or the executive director of the Connecticut Higher 117 Education Supplemental Loan Authority, as appropriate, on behalf of 118 such corporation, shall enter into an agreement for the crediting of income tax refunds against the amount a taxpayer is in default of a loan 119 120 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection. The agreement shall 121 include procedures for the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation or the 122 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority, as 123 appropriate, to (A) notify the Commissioner of Administrative Services 124 of a default, and the amount of the default, and (B) reimburse the 125 Department of Administrative Services and the Department of Revenue 126 Services for any costs incurred by the departments in carrying out the 127 provisions of this subsection.

128 (c) (1) In cases where any person is due a refund of state income taxes, 129 and that same person is a delinquent lottery sales agent in accordance 130 with subsection (a) of section 12-569, as amended by this act, or is the person who assumed joint and several liability with said delinquent 132 lottery sales agent in accordance with subsection (c) of section 12-568a-133 5 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, the Connecticut 134 Lottery Corporation shall notify the Commissioner of Consumer Protection of such default. The Commissioner of Revenue Services, 135 136 upon notification by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, shall 137 withhold the payment of said refund to such person to the extent of such default, provided the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall notify 138 139 such person in default that he or she has the right to a hearing before an 140 officer designated by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection if he or 141 she contests the validity or amount of the Commissioner of Consumer 142 Protection's claim. If the person in default fails to apply in writing to the 143 Commissioner of Consumer Protection for a hearing within sixty days of the issuance of notice of withholding, the Commissioner of Revenue 144 Services shall remit the amount of the withheld refund to the 145 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, who in turn shall remit the 146 147 amount of such withheld refund to the Connecticut Lottery Corporation. If the person in default elects an administrative hearing 148 149 within this time, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall remit the

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- amount of the withheld refund in accordance with any decisions of the
- 151 hearing officer or the court upon an appeal of the hearing officer's
- decision. If a person in default also owes a debt or obligation described
- in subsection (a) or (b) of this section, the refund shall be applied against
- 154 <u>such debt or obligation before being credited against the amount of the</u>
- 155 default.
- 156 (2) The Commissioner of Revenue Services and the president of the
- 157 Connecticut Lottery Corporation, on behalf of such corporation, shall
- enter into an agreement for the crediting of income tax refunds against
- the amount a taxpayer is in default pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
- subsection. The agreement shall include procedures for the Connecticut
- 161 <u>Lottery Corporation to notify the Commissioner of Consumer</u>
- 162 Protection of a default, and the amount of the default.
- Sec. 3. Section 12-810 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2023):
- 165 (a) The Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, shall
- apply to all actions, meetings and records of the corporation, except (1)
- 167 where otherwise limited by subsection (c) of this section as to new
- lottery games and serial numbers of unclaimed lottery tickets, (2) with
- 169 respect to financial, credit and proprietary information submitted by
- any person to the corporation in connection with any proposal to
- 171 provide goods, services or professional advice to the corporation as
- 172 provided in section 12-815, (3) with respect to any personally
- identifying, financial, credit or wagering information associated with
- any person's account for Internet games, as defined in section 12-850,
- [and] (4) where otherwise limited by subsection (f) of section 12-863, and
- 176 (5) with respect to the name and address of any person who redeems a
- 177 <u>winning lottery ticket</u>.
- 178 (b) The records of proceedings as provided in subsection (a) of section
- 179 12-805 shall be subject to disclosure pursuant to the provisions of
- subsection (a) of section 1-210.
- (c) Any new lottery game and the procedures for such game, until the

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game is publicly announced by the corporation, and any serial number of an unclaimed lottery ticket shall not be deemed public records, as defined in section 1-200, and shall not be available to the public under the provisions of section 1-210. The president shall submit a fiscal note prepared by the corporation with respect to the procedures for a new lottery game to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue, bonding and public safety after approval of such game by the board.

Sec. 4. Section 12-814 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

- (a) In each advertisement intended to promote the purchase of lottery tickets issued for games authorized under sections 12-563a, 12-800 to 12-818, inclusive, and 12-850 to 12-872, inclusive, the corporation shall include a prominent and clear statement of the average chances of winning per specific lottery ticket. A prominent and clear statement in any written digital or print advertising shall mean a type font no smaller than ten per cent of the largest font included in such advertisement, provided, for digital advertising posted in a physical retail location, the type font shall be no smaller than ten per cent of the largest font displayed that is applicable to the specific game to which the odds apply.
 - (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall apply to (1) digital or print advertisements including, but not limited to, social media, electronic mail communications, newspapers, magazines and brochures and on posters, (2) video advertisements, and (3) audio-only advertisements, except those that are less than thirty seconds for (A) the sale of tickets for lottery draw games through the Internet, an online service or a mobile application, or (B) keno through the Internet, an online service or a mobile application.
 - (c) On or before October 1, 1999, the corporation shall implement a code of standards for all advertisements and other activities intended to promote the purchase of lottery tickets for games authorized pursuant

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to this chapter. The code of standards shall include the requirement that no advertisement or promotion shall denigrate the character or conduct of nonlottery players or praise the character or conduct of lottery players.

- (d) The corporation shall not publish the <u>name or address of any</u> <u>person who redeems a winning lottery ticket</u>, or <u>publish the</u> photograph of any person who redeems a winning lottery ticket on the corporation's Internet web site, without the prior written consent of such person.
- [(e) If a person who redeems a winning lottery ticket requests to be excluded from the list of winners published on the corporation's Internet web site, the corporation shall remove such person's name from such list not later than five days after receiving such request.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	12-569
Sec. 2	July 1, 2023	12-742
Sec. 3	July 1, 2023	12-810
Sec. 4	July 1, 2023	12-814

Statement of Purpose:

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To allow hardship waivers of interest due from delinquent lottery sales agents and require permission to disclose the name and address of lottery winners.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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