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H.631

Introduced by Representative Brennan of Colchester

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Recreation and sports; State lottery; unclaimed prize money

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow a store that sells a winning lottery ticket to keep its commission even if no one claims the prize.

An act relating to lottery commissions

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

~~Sec. 1. 31 V.S.A. § 662 is amended to read:~~

~~§ 662. UNCLAIMED PRIZE MONEY~~

~~Lottery prize winners will be allowed one year from their prize eligibility date to claim a prize. All prize money which is unclaimed after one year shall revert to the ~~state lottery fund~~ State Lottery Fund, except for the commission that the store that sold the winning ticket receives.~~

~~Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE~~

~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.~~

~~*Sec. 1. 31 V.S.A. § 658 is amended to read:*~~

~~**§ 658. STATE LOTTERY FUND**~~

\* \* \*

*(b) Expenditures for administrative and overhead expenses of the operation of the lottery, except agent and bank commissions, shall be paid from lottery receipts from an appropriation authorized for that purpose. Agent commissions shall be set by the ~~lottery commission~~ Lottery Commission and may not exceed 6.25 percent of gross receipts and bank commissions may not exceed ~~±~~ one percent of gross receipts. Any store that sells a winning draw ticket shall receive its commission in a manner consistent with the rules adopted by the Lottery Commission.*

\* \* \*

*Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE*

*This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.*

*Sec. 1. 31 V.S.A. § 658 is amended to read:*

*§ 658. STATE LOTTERY FUND*

\* \* \*

*(b) Expenditures for administrative and overhead expenses of the operation of the lottery, except agent and bank commissions, shall be paid from lottery receipts from an appropriation authorized for that purpose. Agent commissions shall be set by the ~~lottery commission~~ Lottery Commission and may not exceed 6.25 percent of gross receipts and bank commissions may not exceed 1 percent of gross receipts. Once the draw game results become*

official, the payment of any commission on any draw game ticket that wins at least \$10,000.00 shall be made through the normal course of processing payments to lottery agents, regardless of whether the winning ticket is claimed.

\* \* \*

*Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE*

*This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.*