

# Illinois Lottery Special Instant Scratch-Off Task Force Meeting 6 | Minutes

Monday, April 7, 2025, 9:00am CDT

Meeting Held via Webex

## Task Force Members:

- Dir. Harold Mays, Member, via Webex
- Diana Sheehan, Member, via Webex
- Sara Barnett, Member, via Webex
- Sen. Mattie Hunter, Co-Chair, via Webex
- Sen. Bill Cunningham, Member, via Webex
- Sen. Donald DeWitte, Member (absent)
- Sen. Sally Turner, Member (absent)
- Rep. Dan Swanson, Member, via Webex
- Rep. Eva-Dina Delgado, Co-Chair, via Webex
- Rep. Elizabeth 'Lisa' Hernandez, Member (absent)
- Rep. Norine Hammond, Member, (absent)

## Lottery Staff:

- Scott Gillard, Chief of Staff, via Webex
- Amber Chappell, Chief Financial Officer, via Webex
- Mason McDaniel, Legislative Liaison, via Webex
- Cornell Wilson, General Counsel, via Webex
- Meghan Powers, Communications Director, via Webex

## Allwyn North America Staff:

- Lorell Lynch-Director Public Affairs Community Outreach and Events, via Webex

## Other Attendees:

- Barb Foolish, on behalf of Sen. Turner, via Webex
- Dr. Layla Suleiman, on behalf of Rep. Hernandez, via Webex

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## CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, welcomes everyone that is in attendance. The meeting is called to order at 9:05am, roll was taken, quorum was achieved but not required. Members and Lottery/Allwyn staff in attendance introduced themselves.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## OLD BUSINESS

### Approval of Minutes

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, seeks to approve minutes from Meeting #5, members concur, previous minutes approved.

### Goal of Meeting 6 | Discuss/Review the Presentation – Task Force Member Director Mays

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, provides a quick recap of meetings to date, preliminary report was submitted, final report due in FY26. We've seen various levels of progress towards the different goals of the task force as identified in the statute. In terms of ticket performance, the current joint ticket has performed better than the eight previous tickets combined. However, increasing the number of causes to 10 has resulted in some causes receiving less than they have in the past, and some receiving more. The joint ticket will remain as the main funding source for the program, generating \$10-\$12M/year. Breast Cancer and HIV would have their sunsets removed and join the eight causes that don't have sunsets. The program will expand from 10 to 12. The two new causes will be floaters with sunsets that have yet to be determined. Proceed allocation would be adjusted to favor the eight causes without existing sunsets, the remaining 4 causes will split the remaining proceeds equally – basically, the existing causes will continue operating as they do currently and receive a similar share of the proceeds. The Task Force also decided a bipartisan committee would be responsible for selecting new causes and we are currently trying to determine the appropriate way to evaluate and select floater causes going forward.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Program Selection, Administration, New Cause Selection Criteria

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, the Department researched ways the administration/evaluation process could be handled for the 2 new floater causes. Ten causes will remain the same per statute, the 2 new floater causes must go through the legislative process to join the program. New cause

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legislation would be considered by the joint committee/advisory committee in accordance with criteria developed by the task force. For clarity, the two floaters would split roughly \$1M per year. if not filled, money will be allocated amongst other causes.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, relating to the Department's efforts so far to develop an evaluation criteria, after looking into IL and other states, we found ample information and will attempt to summarize our findings but would like additional time to examine more closely. Overall, GATA largely defines state grant requirements, and they are very comprehensive. While the Department cannot stand up a grant program, we do want to leverage grant program criteria to assist in evaluation framework. What are some general questions about the nature of floating causes when evaluating; do we consider purpose, do previous causes determine future causes (no repeats/overlap), will size of organization be a factor (small org. with small budget vs large org. with large budget), should receiving current state funding prohibit entering the program?

**Task Force Member Rep. Swanson**, suggests criteria should include that all Lottery funds must remain in Illinois. **Task Force Member Dir Mays**, agrees. All causes do currently follow this, but it will be part of the new criteria as well.

**Task Force Member Sen. Cunningham**, you posed all the right questions, and this is a good test for new funds, including Rep. Swanson's input. Also believes current state funding should absolutely be considered.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, believes most causes currently fall into this category, going forward this is a good way to put guardrails around the floaters.

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, we should strongly consider that before limiting agencies that are providing a tremendous amount of services, and can prove the need for additional funding, this should be allowed. Sometimes the Lottery dollars are not enough to fulfill their obligations.

**Task Force Member Sara Barnett**, thinks it would be better if organizations had the infrastructure in place to handle marketing and other operations internally.

**Task Force Member Sen. Cunningham**, suggests some requirements should be very tough while other criteria being more flexible. Maybe lean towards the charity not receiving any state money, but don't rule out large charities. Avoid disqualifying large organizations but still consider factors such as budget and size.

**Task Force Member Rep. Swanson**, asks if we determined a length of time a floater is considered as a recipient? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, not specifically, but we agreed it would not be permanent, one vs two years is still up for discussion. From our experience, we have had causes in the program for one and two years, our recommendation would be two years.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, every year there may be variables to consider so having flexibility around criteria make sense. Circling back to **Task Force Member Sara Barnett's** comment, **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, adds additional GATA background/details and context in response to **Task Force Member Barnett's** comments.

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**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, the challenge for the Lottery is the evaluation process, how do we get information to determine if a cause meets the criteria? Since we are not a grant program, we do not have the resources to do this grant background analysis for applications.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, a few other points came up such as performance. The joint ticket is doing well but the Lottery industry fluctuates. There could be a situation where proceeds are down, should this be a factor if the program is underperforming?

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, more from our analysis, we could standardize the language/how a cause is introduced instead of the “on-your-own” approach that comes with the legislative process.

**Task Force Member Rep. Swanson**, asks for clarification. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, if a bill is introduced, it would be in a format that makes sense for the program and the committee would simply evaluate if the bill should pass.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, the Dept will continue exploring how we can turn this into an evaluation procedure. This could change, but currently we are also considering a framework for what a new piece of legislation must look like to get in the program.

**Task Force Member Rep Delgado**, you are definitely on the right path, Director. We understand your team wants more time to build out criteria, but the consensus is you are going in the right direction.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, the Department will continue working and come back next time with an evaluation procedure for the task force to consider.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, asks the task force about sunsets for floating causes, should it be one or two years. **Task Force Member Sen. Cunningham**, partial to two years but open to suggestions. **Task Force Member Rep Delgado**, likes the two-year time frame, seems like enough time for an organization to get the program up and running. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, adds that was part of the rationale behind two years, allowing time to set up the administration and begin receiving funds.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, back to original task force goals, final requirement is any other issues related to the program that we should address as a task force. Just reminding the task force, we are not limited or restricted to the four goals in law. **Task Force Member Sen. Cunningham**, can't think of anything else. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, we'll review the minutes again for anything we may have missed.

**Task Force Member Rep Delgado**, nothing to add, good conversation today and looking forward to our next meeting.

## NEXT STEPS – THE DEPARTMENT

- The Department will continue exploring potential application/framework/procedure for evaluating new causes.
- Craft/discuss any additional goals for the task force outside of those in statute.

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Closing Remarks – Task Force Member Dir. Harold Mays

- Members agree, 2-year sunsets for new causes.
- The Department will continue reviewing previous minutes for any remaining concerns.

***\*\*Subsequent Task Force meetings have been scheduled for May 5 at 9:00am, June 16 at 9:00am, July 7 at 9:00am\*\****

## ADJORNMENT

With all business concluded, motion to adjourn at 9:45am. **Motion approved, meeting six complete.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mason McDaniel, Legislative Liaison