

# Illinois Lottery Special Instant Scratch-Off Task Force Meeting 7 | Minutes

Monday, May 5, 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 (absent)
- 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:

- Dave Olsen, President, Illinois Alzheimer's Association, via Webex
- Kathy Gilroy, member of public, via Webex
- Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez, 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 #6, members concur, previous minutes approved.

### Goal of Meeting 7 | Discuss/Review New Cause Framework and Selection Committee – Task Force Member Director Mays

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, provides a quick recap of meetings to date, outlined status/performance update. **Amber Chappell, Lottery CFO**, shared a joint ticket performance update and proceeds through March. **Lorell Lynch, Allwyn**, outlined ticket PR and marketing and noted on increased awareness overall.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, shares additional highlights to date, brief report update, recapped previous meeting and key highlights. Then, we outlined the Department's high-level draft procedure for new causes coming in and have developed initial review process and framework. Explained the high-level flow chart and how a bill passes through this process. Considered creation of a bi-partisan committee to administer new causes. Carving out time at the end for additional concerns.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Program and New Cause Selection | Committee, Framework

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, the department put together an initial review process framework. Largely, the process remains the same relating to the legislative process. This would be the first "stage" once a bill is filed to even be considered. The bill would then be assigned to the bipartisan committee, and we are still hashing out this process dependent upon the chamber introducing the bill. Possibly a task force or separate entity, still searching for clarity around this.

**Task Force Member Swanson**, asks previously you mentioned avoiding GATA and the grant process? Did that change? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, no, we are suggesting using GATA requirements as a guide to put basic requirements together, using it as initial review guidelines.

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**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, regarding forming a bi-partisan committee, can members share any perspective?

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, suggest since we already have the task force, make an ad-hoc committee that reports back to the larger group. Director, you could appoint the lead and a secretary to record rather than creating extra changes.

**Task Force Member Swanson**, concerned about time frame, from when the bill is assigned to committee and passes committee, can be a matter of days. To gather all of the bills would require the committee to act quickly. Also, it is important to consider how long it will take to finish that work.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, regarding Leader Hunter's comment, are you suggesting a less formal group? **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, is legislation necessary since we already have the task force in place? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, believes that is following our thought process, the legislation would be required for the new cause, not the committee. Trying to figure out the committee structure in possibly a less formal way given the current task force, with some additional structure going forward.

**Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, are we talking about adding causes before the end of session or is this just instilling a system for future causes? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, future causes next session.

**Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, another option could be rulemaking around the process allowing for public comment and comment from future causes. JCAR would provide the structure Leader Hunter referenced, that could be a more formal process.

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, asks for clarification from Member Delgado, are you keeping the information in committee or new legislation? **Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, repeats her suggestion to go through JCAR. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, agrees.

**Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, further explains the JCAR process, unsure if the task force can make decisions or only recommendations? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, notes the task force makes recommendations which are done through the final report.

**Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, maybe the final recommendation is that the GA create a process/general approach and give the Lottery the authority to make rules through the JCAR process. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, is it possible to request an inquiry from JCAR on how to proceed, is JCAR the most appropriate body, or an inquiry from House/Senate Legal, without overcomplicating?

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, introduces **Cornell Wilson, Lottery GC**, adds context around JCAR process, more concerned if one of the driving items was mitigating how many causes pass through the legislative process, unsure if JCAR is the place to manage this. Not sure putting rules in JCAR would stop the flow of causes that come in through the legislative process.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, point of clarity, discussion around JCAR is focused on forming the task force or group responsible for doing the work, not as much with getting a bill through the process. The question was, how to create this entity that would have this responsibility?

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**Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, our task force would provide recommendations to the GA that there would be an application process for these two floating opportunities, Lottery can create rules, then go through JCAR, once rules are in place we would then have a process, causes would then follow this process. JCAR was solely for the state agency.

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, the GA created this task force, if the task force doesn't have this authority, can we amend the language and give the task force the necessary authority rather than going back to the GA. **Cornell Wilson, Lottery GC**, that sounds like a workable process in terms of amending the task force by making it semi-permanent to evaluate causes, seems more reliable than the Lottery trying to make rules.

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, rather than asking the GA to make decisions for the Lottery, Lottery should craft recommendations and utilize a shell bill for the language based on task force recommendations. Problem is now accommodating other new causes, correct?

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, yes, we created a program that allows for two causes to be included every two years. The process here is leveraging what we already have, once the bill is introduced it needs to go through a review process to determine if it can be added or not, attempting to formalize this process since we don't have a formal group responsible for doing this, the bipartisan group would have the responsibility to usher through this process with the Department's support.

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, believes we already have this in place with the task force, leaders appointed us to sit on the task force, so we are the committee. Director, you can appoint from the task force, an ad-hoc committee, since the task force was given certain authorities under the legislation that created the task force.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, the task force does have very specific authority, but it doesn't go that far, the task force's purpose was to evaluate and make recommendations to the GA if the program should continue, currently limited in scope. But agree to additional legislation being introduced before the program and within could be a new task force/group with a slightly different purpose.

**Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez**, reiterates that this task force was written for a specific purpose; a new proposed evaluation task force can prioritize and make final recommendations to which causes to move forward. One recommendation could be having a working group or standing task force to evaluate the new cause proposals, it could be a handful of bills. The new task force can then prioritize and make final recommendations on which causes advance. Common to have working groups compile recommendations and report back to committees, this could be very similar.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, suggests a subcommittee of an existing committee such as Executive or Gaming. **Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez**, suggest a work group or task force. Whatever provides the most flexibility to evaluate and make recommendations. Doubtful the group needs to meet more than a couple times per session to make recommendations. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, adds concern around timing and getting ahead of session to provide timely decisions and recommendations for causes advancing.

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, unsure the GA wants to make the decision. **Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez agrees**, however making this task force permanent with a different focus of evaluating new proposals is not currently part of the charge of this particular committee, it could be a

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reformulated committee with a specific function. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, which would require legislation and amending the program to give the task force this authority. **Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez**, absolutely. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, understood.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, to your comments Leader Hunter, that would be the goal of the committee, to review bills and report back to the GA. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, if the GA approved language, they've already given us the authority, all we need to do is act.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, asks for clarity around authority. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, the authority to select new causes every two years. **Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez**, clarifies, you would need to amend this particular statute before proceeding. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, send recommendations in legislation to give the task force the authority to make decisions on upcoming new causes and attach to a shell bill, believes we could do this by the end of session through a shell bill. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, that is where we are headed, legislation will give this entity the authority to put a cause in the program. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, the problem is legislation, legislation was already created to make this Lottery task force. This legislation gave the task force the authority to do certain things, now there are too many causes trying to join, instead of amending the existing legislation, then leave it to the GA to vote it up or now. The influx of new bills is bothersome for the GA. Now, we are producing recommendations on how we would like to govern and present to the GA for passage, does this make sense? **Cornell Wilson, Lottery GC**, yes.

**Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, key item, new causes would not need to introduce legislation; agrees that the GA should not have to make this decision. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, the Lottery could develop guidelines on how/when to submit recommendations to the task force regarding new causes. Unless the Lottery cannot take on this responsibility. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, complex question/answer, this might expand the Department's responsibilities similarly to a grant administering agency. By removing the legislative barrier for causes to introduce new legislation to be considered opens the flood gates for endless causes to participate, leading to an increase in the level of managerial efforts thus overcomplicating the process for the Department overall. Reminder, any additional resources/funds to support the program, comes out of the program. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, suggesting we seek counsel from House and Senate Legal (Gio in the Senate), he advises on similar task force problems. Provide Gio recommendations in the form of questions to House and Senate legal and we can discuss how to proceed. Also make the GA Legal aware of these issues and the parameters. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, we can provide a list of questions on this path and more clarity around what we can and can't do. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, as a result, we may not meet the deadline for passage by the end of May, more likely for veto. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, the goal was not to pass anything this session, don't want to rush this.

**Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez**, suggests it would be a good idea to make the task force permanent, similar to the Medicaid working group for example, bipartisan House and Senate. The group discusses all Medicaid related bills and reports back with a set of recommendations and priorities, this could work similarly. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, replies, we do have an internal committee, perhaps the committee could meet over the summer and discuss further, then provide recommendations to present to the GA during veto or go another route. **Task Force Member Dir.**

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**Mays**, we do have summer meetings scheduled, and the goal is to provide a final report. The next meetings are June 16 and July 7.

**Task Force Member Swanson**, comments on the Medicaid working group; do those recommendations that go forward normally turn into legislation or implemented by the appropriate state agency? **Dr. Layla Suleiman Gonzalez**, clarifies that it's more a method to shift through large numbers of proposals related to the topic and then create a package of recommendations that should advance. The revamped task force with new functions would sort through related bills and make recommendations to the committee. **Task Force Member Swanson**, would allow parallel lines to be drawn without recreating the wheel.

**Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, two issues around sunsets to readdress for awareness. The joint ticket expires in January 2027, these changes being discussed would need to be done in FY26 or worst case, veto of next year, again – awareness the joint ticket sunsets in January 2027. We talked about making two causes with sunsets permanent, breast cancer has until December 26, but HIV sunsets this year, which creates a more near-time challenge given the cause sunsets before we can make legislative changes to the program. Still processing this timing and need for extending the sunset this session. If the goal is extending the sunset on HIV, we need to act now. Some additional considerations, program has done well – allowed causes to be involved but never discussed a cause being extended forever. The law doesn't speak to how the Lottery would respond to a more challenging relationship with a cause. Any new legislation going forward, we would want this addressed in legislation. Another note from previous meetings, while evaluating causes, consider causes that can add popularity to the program or strategic value, should be incorporated into this evaluation process. Lastly, back and forth between a grant program or no grant program. An alternative could be making it a formal grant program outside of the Lottery and GA. Proceeds could be earmarked for a grant program that is administered by DHS or DPH, we could build a grant program specifically funded by the ticket that would allow the process to be removed from the GA completely and the Lottery would provide funding to subsidize the program going forward. Clear two paths, through the Legislature and the Department as discussed or should it be a grant completed removed from the legislative process and allowing another agency to manage on our behalf.

**Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, in terms of public health, we can talk with DPH. Ticket for the Cure has an advisory board and fund to receive moneys. Some entities do already exist that we could explore. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays**, that is a possible framework for how this could happen and what we have used for causes in the program already, but it would be a departure. New causes would no longer come in through legislation and the merits of a new grant program to apply for would be removed from the legislature and outside of the Department; just wanted to bring this up for everyone to consider, looking more into what this alternative might look like.

**Task Force Member Rep. Delgado**, this is a lot of good information to consider, we started in this direction in earlier conversations and now must dial down our recommendations exactly.

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## NEXT STEPS – THE DEPARTMENT

- The Department will begin compiling questions for House/Senate Legal staff.
- Similar grant program vs working group.
- Craft/discuss any additional goals for the task force outside of those in statute.

## Closing Remarks – Task Force Member Dir. Harold Mays

- Consider alternative of moving the process outside of the legislature/Department, entirely.
- The Department will continue reviewing previous minutes for any remaining concerns.

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

## ADJORNMENT

With all business concluded, motion to adjourn at 10:02am. **Motion approved, meeting seven complete.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mason McDaniel, Legislative Liaison