

# Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

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**DATE:** February 6, 2025  
**BILL NO:** House Bill 618  
**BILL TITLE:** State Lottery - Internet Sales of Subscription Plans - Authorization  
**COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means  
**POSITION:** Information

The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (“MLGCA” or “Agency”) provides the following information regarding House Bill 618, State Lottery - Internet Sales of Subscription Plans - Authorization.

## **Bill Summary:**

The Maryland Lottery currently offers subscription packages for four games: Multi-Match®, Mega Millions®, Powerball® and Cash4Life®. Drawings for these games occur from once a day to three times per week.

This proposed legislation would amend State Government Article §9-111(e) by authorizing Lottery players to purchase a Lottery subscription through an electronic device that connects to the Internet, such as a personal computer or mobile device. The existing prohibition on Lottery ticket sales through the internet will remain unchanged.

## **Background:**

This legislation is a customer service measure. Currently, a subscription player must complete a State Lottery subscription application from the Lottery’s website, print the completed application and mail it to the Agency, along with a check, for processing the player’s subscription plan. Once the Agency receives the application it conducts its review. If deemed complete the Agency then activates the player’s subscription, and the player receives an email that the subscription plan has been activated for the requested number of drawings. The entire process can take 7-10 business days depending on postal service delivery.

## **Rationale:**

Modernizing the subscription service to allow for on-line payment would reduce wait times for customers and remove a significant purchasing barrier, while still protecting the integrity of the application and review process. The rest of the subscription process, including filling in an application, notification of acceptance and monitoring draws would remain unchanged from how it operates today.

This proposal has no economic impact on small businesses that sell lottery tickets at physical locations, as this bill merely makes it easier for an established group of subscription players to purchase their subscription plan, through a streamlined subscription process.

The Agency offers this information to you as you debate HB 618.