



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

November 9, 2015

Mr. J. Winston Krause
Chairman
Texas Lottery Commission
611 East 6th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Chairman Krause:

In light of continuous external pressures to expand the footprint of gaming in Texas, it is timely and necessary that I provide direction on prohibiting all such expansions without express authorization and direction by the Texas Legislature – and in some cases consent of the citizens through constitutional amendment.

I applaud the Lottery Commission's recent success in making record contributions to Texas education and veterans' programs. However, as you work to preserve this success, you must do so with extreme caution.

State laws on gaming are to be viewed strictly as prohibitive to any expansion of gambling. This statutory framework is properly intentioned to protect our citizens, and I support it wholeheartedly.

Please ensure this intent and direction is strictly enforced among the staff of the Texas Lottery Commission. Please also notify the executive director and staff that any request to travel to gather information about gaming opportunities that are prohibited in Texas should be denied.

If you, your fellow commissioners or any staff at the Lottery Commission have questions about the intent expressed in this letter, please contact my staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Greg" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Abbott".

Greg Abbott
Governor

cc: Mr. Gary Grief, Executive Director, Texas Lottery Commission
Ms. Carmen Arrieta-Candelaria, Commissioner, Texas Lottery Commission
Ms. Peggy Heeg, Commissioner, Texas Lottery Commission
Mr. Doug Lowe, Commissioner, Texas Lottery Commission
Mr. Robert Rivera, Commissioner, Texas Lottery Commission