



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Mark Dayton

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

May 30, 2014

The Honorable Sandra L. Pappas
President of the Senate
Room 120, State Capitol Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Madam President:

After careful consideration, I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 303, Senate File 2642, "A bill for an act relating to regulated industries . . . ; suspending the sale of certain tickets of the state lottery through a Web site or self-service devices"

In 1988, a strong majority of Minnesota voters (57 percent) approved a Constitutional Amendment to establish a state-run lottery. Since then, the Minnesota State Lottery has generated \$2.3 billion to support the state's General Fund and Environmental Trust Fund. Those revenues benefit Minnesotans by helping to fund education, transportation, parks, hunting and fishing programs, and programs to protect and preserve our environment.

The internet is an increasingly common way for the public to access services. By taking steps to modernize its operations and make the same games it sells in paper form available in new ways, the Lottery is attempting to respond to changes in technology and public preferences.

Legislators have raised concerns that they expect to be kept better informed of the Lottery's efforts. Those constructive professional relationships are essential to the success of any enterprise in the Executive Branch, and I urge the Lottery Director to re-establish them with legislators before the next legislative session.

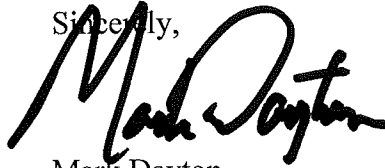
With all due respect, however, the authorization for the Lottery stems directly from the people of Minnesota, who instructed the Legislature to establish the Minnesota Lottery. The statutory language providing for a Lottery broadly defines the powers and duties of the Executive Director. Minnesota Statutes § 349.02 states, in part: "In operating the lottery the director shall exercise the following powers and duties: (1) adopt rules and game procedures; (2) issue lottery retailer contracts" It appears to me that the Executive Director is operating within the scope of his legislatively-established authority.

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Finally, while it is unfortunate that the provisions limiting lottery sales were added to a bill initially intended to make reasonable changes to charitable gambling laws, I am committed to working with the Gambling Control Board and the charitable gaming industry to ensure that appropriate provisions become law next legislative session.

For those reasons, I am vetoing this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Dayton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Dayton
Governor

cc: Senator Thomas M. Bakk, Senate Majority Leader
Senator David W. Hann, Senate Minority Leader
Representative Paul Thissen, Speaker of the House
Representative Kurt Daudt, House Minority Leader
Representative Joe Atkins
The Honorable Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State
Ms. JoAnne Zoff, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Ms. Michele Timmons, Revisor of Statutes