

Illinois Lottery Special Instant Scratch-Off Task Force Meeting 9 | Minutes

Monday, July 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
- Sen. Donald DeWitte, Member (absent)
- Sen. Sally Turner, Member
- Rep. Dan Swanson, Member, via Webex
- Rep. Eva-Dina Delgado, Co-Chair, via Webex
- Rep. Elizabeth 'Lisa' Hernandez, Member
- Rep. Norine Hammond, Member

Lottery Staff:

- 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
- Ashley Peterson, Private Secretary to Dir. Mays, 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
- Fran Hurley, President, Special Children Charities

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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 9:10am, roll was taken, quorum was achieved but not required. Members and Lottery/Allwyn staff in attendance introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

Task Force Member Dir. Mays, seeks to approve minutes from Meeting #8, members concur, previous minutes approved.

Task Force Member Dir. Mays, provides a quick recap of meetings to date, outlined status update. Thank you members for your commitment to the process – thanks for your insight to make the program even stronger. Still more work to do but reached an important milestone today, great job everyone.

NEW BUSINESS

Task Force Member Dir. Mays, began outlining the final report, noting that it will summarize the work completed and discussions had by the task force and will pick up where the preliminary report issued in January left off. It will detail for the program's future and actions necessary to implement the recommendations. Mays discussed the four high-level task force recommendations to date and that all paths lead to legislative action. If we do nothing, the joint ticket dissolves and we revert back to the old program. There is a January 2027 sunset date for the ticket but we need time in advance to replace the ticket if needed. The task force is also recommending that two expiring causes be made permanent by removing their sunsets, HIV and breast cancer. This requires legislation as well. Potentially, a veto solution to extend both due to the Dec 2025 expiration of HIV, or let it expire and bring it back in the Spring. Does the task force have any thoughts on this, wait until Spring or push for something in veto?

Task Force Member Sen. Hunter, believes extending the deadline is not hard, would like to extend the date in veto. But do you all have issues or questions with that? If we allow it to expire do the programs stop receive funding until reintroduced. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays replies**, yes, until they are reintroduced to the program funding will pause.

Task Force Member Sen. Hunter, recommends extending the deadline during veto. **Task Force Member Sen. Cunningham agrees**, noting legislation filed during veto is time sensitive, so this would certainly qualify.

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Task Force Member Rep. Hernandez agrees, we should extend support to avoid any interruptions. Mays could extend both HIV and breast cancer together, just a consideration. Hunter agrees, one bill makes more sense.

Task Force Member Dir. Mays, expanding the program from 10 to 12, but maintaining funding level for legacy causes would require more substantive legislative changes. The new causes would share the funding, roughly half of what they get now.

Task Force Member Sen. Hunter asks, are we talking about four causes sharing half of revenue generated, is this permanent? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays replies,** yes, it would be permanent going forward.

Task Force Member Sen. Hunter requests, can I have a revenue example? If \$1M is generated, what happens next? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays explains,** of total shares, roughly 10% goes to each cause. To allow the 8 legacy causes to maintain at the same level they have now, 20% would be split four ways between HIV, Breast Cancer and the 2 new causes. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter asks,** will those 4 causes ever be on the same level of funding as the other 8? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays replies,** no, they will stay in the space of sharing the 20% carveout.

Task Force Member Dir. Mays outlines the final recommendation regarding how to administer the two new causes. There are two paths going forward: 1) a legislative path which is similar to what we do now, in that new causes need to complete the legislative process of getting a bill passed to join the program, versus 2) an formal grant program outside of the legislative process so causes can apply for these grants through DPH and DHS to facilitate administration. The program would be funded by roughly \$1M, the two causes would apply for 2 years grants and \$500k a piece. This gives everyone a fair shot to apply for funding.

Task Force Member Rep. Swanson asks, do we limit to just two causes, or offer grants of different amounts to different non-profits. Is two the right number for new causes, or should the number be based on something else; can we award 5 as opposed to two?

Task Force Member Sen. Cunningham adds, we could give the grant agency flexibility, allow them to extend grants to multiple organizations. Not necessary to need to be limiting, maybe two is easier or maybe easier to pick more, but flexibility needs to be in place.

Task Force Member Rep. Delgado suggests, maybe we draft this and give the grant making agency flexibility, but it must be very clear to grantees that you have two years and that's it. Funding after two years needs to be readdressed.

Task Force Member Rep. Hernandez, agrees with flexibility, charities could come back after two years. We don't want to limit this, want to keep the door open for others to reapply. **Task Force Member Rep. Hammond agrees,** similar to how Ticket for the Cure operates now, this makes sense.

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Task Force Member Dir. Mays adds, we may have flexibility around how the program is structured by nature of it being a grant program. The other consideration is what types of causes are eligible to apply? The task force needs to give guidance on who is allowed to apply for a grant program to be stood up.

Task Force Member Rep. Hernandez seeks clarification, roughly \$1m averaging to causes, is the \$500k dependent on how much is generated or is that a set number in the grant?

Task Force Member Dir. Mays clarifies, it is determined by total proceeds generated. These are estimates based on proceeds. Roughly 10% would fund the program, so roughly \$1M per year, currently. But could go up/down based on revenues.

Task Force Member Dir. Mays, the group agrees that the grant program option makes the most sense for the program and relieving legislative pressure, giving the most options for others to participate in the program.

Task Force Member Diana Sheehan adds, these are short term opportunities, many agencies have embedded rules that state amounts over certain percentages will not be donated, parameters are set based on charities incomes. Some charities are not equipped to handle large influxes of money, don't want to hurt any charities either. **Task Force Member Dir. Mays agrees**, great call out – will need to administer appropriately through support from grant making agencies like DPH and DHS to properly vet candidates.

Task Force Member Dir. Mays, those are the recommendations so far, the final report will consist of these four recommendations and timelines. The goal is for the final report to be ready in September, which the task force will approve for submission going into the fall. We talked about the veto process and extending sunset dates for HIV and breast cancer, once veto starts to take place. In parallel, working on draft legislation for the Spring to define the grant program, make the ticket program permanent and establish the rules for the program going forward. The Department is drafting but will need task force resources and support to achieve the best bill, do we have any volunteers for bill sponsorship?

Task Force Member Sen. Hunter asks, are you asking for help drafting; can you share a draft with us? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays replies**, yes, we can start a draft but would need some guidance from your teams to fine tune the draft and make the best bill.

Task Force Member Rep. Hernandez, happy to work with you and Leader Hunter. **Task Force Member Sen. Hunter**, agrees to help in sponsoring/drafting.

Task Force Member Dir. Mays, on next steps, will reach out to DPH on the HIV sunset, attempting to remove their sunset in veto and bring them up to speed. Continuing conversations with DHS on grant administration to get a very clear set of marching orders of standing up this program and what does the legislation need to say to make the program work. Next meeting will be September 15, 9am.

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Task Force Member Rep. Hammond asks, does that give us enough time to discuss and review draft veto legislation? **Task Force Member Dir. Mays replies**, I think so, imagining the most basic sunset removal language, I am more concerned with identifying the correct vehicle to use for veto.

Task Force Member Rep. Delgado confirms, there are two pieces to this, for veto session we are extending the sunsets, next session is changing the entire program, is that correct?

Task Force Member Dir. Mays confirms, that's correct. The September meeting can be utilized to review what we have at that point. We can decide on veto language and the draft language for the program.

Task Force Member Dir. Mays indicated Task Force Members agree to meeting again on September, the Department will start on the final report and draft veto language.

NEXT STEPS – THE DEPARTMENT

- Gather feedback on “grant program administration” from DPH/DHS.
- Identify any additional goals for the task force outside of those in statute.
- The Department will begin developing the final report, due in September.

Closing Remarks – Task Force Member Dir. Harold Mays

- Department will begin compiling recommendations from previous meetings for members to vote on in the September meeting.
- The Department will continue reviewing previous minutes for any remaining concerns.

*****Subsequent task force meeting scheduled for September 15 at 9:00am*****

ADJORNMENT

With all business concluded, motion to adjourn at 9:37am. **Motion approved, meeting #9 complete.**

Respectfully submitted by,
Mason McDaniel, Legislative Liaison