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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

March 20, 2018

To: Roger J. Katz, Senate Chair
Anne-Marie Mastraccio, House Chair
Members, Government Oversight Committee

From: Garrett P. Mason, Senate Chair
Louis J. Luchini, House Chair
Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

RE: Recommendations in OPEGA Report on the Maine State Lottery

Thank you for your request seeking input and comment from our committee regarding the recommendations in well-written and thorough report by OPEGA on the Maine State Lottery. The committee supports the introduction of legislation by the Government Oversight Committee (GOC) based on the recommendations made in that report to specify a date upon which an annual report on Lottery operations is due, the content of the report, and a requirement that it be presented to the Joint Standing Committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over lottery operations.

We support consideration of legislation which proposes an annual report to be presented to the committee of jurisdiction, which includes but isn't necessarily limited to the following:

- A review of actions and decisions by the Liquor and Lottery Commission for the preceding year relative to lottery operations;
- A full and complete statement of lottery revenues, prize disbursements and expenses;
- An historical view of the account used to manage lottery operations and from which transfers are made to the General Fund; and
- A statement of expenditures made to promote lottery sales through marketing, advertisement and agent recruitment.

Additionally, we support including language authorizing the committee to report out legislation based on the report.

With regard to the elimination of the annual certification of finances to the State Treasurer, we support inclusion of this proposal in legislation you may wish to introduce in hopes that further information may be presented in testimony about the value of the report and the burden to the agency to submit this information.

We appreciate your good work and your efforts to include our input in your consideration of the OPEGA report on the Maine State Lottery.