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MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Maine State Lottery

At its January 22, 2016 meeting, the Government Oversight Committee directed OPEGA to modify the scope of the Maine State Lottery review and give it priority in response to a recent study reported by the Maine Center of Public Interest Reporting (MCPPIR). MCPPIR's stories focused on regions of the State with the highest lottery spending per capita and raised questions for legislators about the marketing of the Maine State Lottery.

The GOC approved the following revised questions for continuing the review of the Maine State Lottery.

- What entities have a role in governing and overseeing the Maine State Lottery? Is there sufficient governance and oversight of MSL key decisions impacting revenues, expenses and operations?
- What does the Maine State Lottery consider when making decisions about games to be offered and how they will be marketed? Are any particular demographic groups or regions of the State specifically targeted in the Lottery's advertising and marketing? Who has responsibility for making and overseeing those decisions?
- How are lottery winnings considered in determining eligibility for public benefits? Are lists of lottery winners compared to lists of benefits recipients to determine continued benefit eligibility?
- What is the breakdown of lottery ticket purchases and lottery winnings by municipality or county?

OPEGA expects it can complete this review with the approved modified scope by mid-2016.