

# Legislative Analysis



## ANONYMOUS LOTTERY WINNERS

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 4218 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Pat Outman**  
**Committee: Regulatory Reform**  
**Complete to 4-26-21**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4218 would amend the McCauley-Traxler-Law-Bowman-McNeely Lottery Act to prohibit the lottery commissioner, or an officer or employee of the Michigan Bureau of State Lottery, from disclosing certain information about an individual who has won a prize in a multistate lottery game (such as Powerball or Mega Millions) unless that individual agrees in writing to the disclosure.

Currently, the commissioner or an officer or employee of the bureau may disclose the name, address, or any other personal information concerning a winner of a prize awarded under a game played pursuant to a *joint enterprise* to the extent required under the joint enterprise participation agreement. By comparison, the information of an individual who has won a prize of greater than \$10,000 in the state lottery may not be disclosed unless that individual agrees in writing to the disclosure.

As used in the act, *joint enterprise* means any lottery activity in which the bureau participates pursuant to a written agreement between the state of Michigan and any state, territory, country, or other sovereignty as executed by the commissioner. The term does not include the state lottery created under the act.

The bill would also make other technical, nonsubstantive changes.

MCL 432.25

### FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4218 would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on lottery revenues and subsequent distributions to the School Aid Fund. Any fiscal impact estimate would depend on assumptions related to the bill's effect on lottery sales. According to the Michigan Bureau of State Lottery, the bill would reduce the bureau's ability to generate publicity and advertise prizes won for multistate games (Mega Millions, Powerball, and Lucky for Life). The Bureau of State Lottery has indicated that this likely would reduce sales, thereby reducing the annual distribution to the School Aid Fund. As background, the distribution to the School Aid Fund was approximately \$1.18 billion in FY 2020.

There would be no administrative costs associated with the changes required under the bill.

Legislative Analyst: Susan Stutzky  
Fiscal Analyst: Ben Gielczyk

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.