

# Legislative Analysis

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## ANONYMOUS LOTTERY WINNERS

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

**House Bill 4004 as reported**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Pat Outman**  
**Committee: Regulatory Reform**  
**Complete to 3-10-25**

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

## SUMMARY:

House Bill 4004 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 the name, address, or any other personal information of 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

## BACKGROUND:

The bill is identical to House Bill 4048 of the 2023-24 legislative session as that bill was passed by the House of Representatives.<sup>1</sup>

## BRIEF DISCUSSION:

According to committee testimony, 11 other states have already protected winners of multistate games from having their identities disclosed. Supporters of the bill argue that, in the digital era when it is much easier to access information, guarding winners' privacy can help to protect against threats, scams, and even the possibility of physical violence against winners. They also pointed to evidence that the other states that have enacted these protections have not seen a decline in lottery sales.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Bills/Bill?ObjectName=2023-HB-4048>

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local units of government.

**POSITIONS:**

The Michigan Lottery indicated a neutral position on the bill (2-20-25).

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■ 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.