



RYAN GUILLEN

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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 30, 2017

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GUILLEN LOTTERY WINNER ANONYMITY BILL TO BECOME LAW

H.B. 59 Allows Lottery Winners To Remain Anonymous

AUSTIN - As the author of the bill, Representative Ryan Guillen (D - Rural South Texas) says H.B. 59 allows lottery prize winners the choice to remain anonymous and protect their identity from falling into the hands of bad actors.

"For most people, winning the lottery is one of the greatest days of their lives, but winners of especially large sums can sometimes become the focus of unwanted attention," said Guillen.

Until now, the Texas Lottery Commission released the names, city of residency, and amount of winnings of all prize winners. The publication of this information, along with publicity from local news organizations that commonly follows large winnings, has raised concerns that these individuals could become targets for theft.

H.B. 59 requires the Texas Lottery Commission to adopt new measures in order to protect winners of large lottery prizes by giving winners of \$1 million or more the ability to remain anonymous from the public. While the commission must continue to release certain information about anonymous lottery winners for tax and legal purposes, the choice is now the winner's on whether they want to publically disclose their identity.

"Giving lottery winners the ability to remain anonymous to the public is an easy public safety fix that can provide much needed peace and quiet to the lives of some lucky Texans."

This act takes effect on September 1st, 2017.

Serving ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, Ryan Guillen is known for his hard work, fierce independence, and relentless efforts for South Texas families. Recently, Capitol Inside called him a "House Bill Machine," and a "one-person assembly line for legislation." Since elected, few other legislators have passed more bills than Guillen. Sign up for updates at ryanguillen.com, facebook.com/representative.guillen, and twitter.com/ryanguillen

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