

October 17, 2022 Sent Via Email

Honorable Judy Ward Majority Chair Senate Aging and Youth Committee Senate Box 203030 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-3030 Honorable Maria Collett Minority Chair Senate Aging and Youth Committee Senate Box 203030 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-3030

Dear Senators Ward and Collett:

On behalf of our 1.8 million members and all Pennsylvanians 50 years of age and older, the purpose of this letter is to convey to you and the members of the Senate Aging and Youth Committee our support of House Bill 2538.

As the only state in the country with a state Lottery that designates all of its proceeds to programs that benefits its older resident, AARP Pennsylvania appreciates the efforts of the Pennsylvania Lottery to ensure that the responsible sale of entertaining Lottery products remain relevant to countless loyal Lottery players. Moreover, we also appreciate the efforts of the General Assembly to extend the expiration of the mandated minimum profit margin to June 30, 2029.

Since its inception five decades ago, the Pennsylvania Lottery has contributed more than \$33.8 billion dollars to programs that help older residents remain socially connected, access healthy meals and reliable transportation, afford their prescription drugs and their rent or property taxes, and age in place healthy and well in their homes. In just the last year, the Pennsylvania Lottery generated more than \$1 billion in Lottery benefits for these programs, which are so critical to our growing aging population.

While we urge the passage of House Bill 2538 during this legislative session, we stand ready to work with you to continue Pennsylvania's long history of preserving and protecting the Pennsylvania Lottery Fund for the benefit of older Pennsylvanians every day. Please feel free to contact me at <u>tosborne@aarp.org</u> or 717-237-6482.

Respectfully,

Teresa Osbarne

Teresa Osborne Director of State Advocacy AARP Pennsylvania