

**STATEMENT OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION ON
SENATE BILL 8, AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT.**

March 13, 2020

The Freedom of Information (“FOI”) Commission offers the following comments on Senate Bill 8.

Section 84 of Senate Bill 8 requires that the Connecticut Lottery Corporation establish a program to sell lottery tickets for lottery draw games through the corporation’s website, online service or mobile application. Among other requirements, the program must establish a voluntary self-exclusion process to allow a person to exclude himself or herself from establishing an online lottery account or purchasing a lottery ticket through such program. In addition, section 87 of Senate Bill 8 proposes to exempt from disclosure “[t]he name and any personally identifying information of a person who is participating or has participated in the corporation's voluntary self-exclusion process.” The proposal, however, also allows the corporation to disclose “the name and any records of such [participant] if such person claims a winning lottery ticket from the use of the online lottery program.”

The FOI Commission does not object to the redaction of the name and personally identifying information of the individual participating in the voluntary self-exclusion process, with limitation. The proposed language is narrow in its application, and would not completely remove such information from the realm of public records subject to the FOI Act.

We have corresponded with representatives of the Lottery Corporation regarding the narrowly crafted language, and believe that the proposed language is acceptable to both sides.

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