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[www.lottery.nd.gov](http://www.lottery.nd.gov)

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **NORTH DAKOTA INTRODUCES MEGA MILLIONS® GAME**

BISMARCK - Beginning Sunday, January 31, the North Dakota Lottery will offer players the opportunity to purchase tickets for Mega Millions®, along with the Lottery's already existing games.

In October 2009, the Powerball and Mega Millions agreement created the largest market ever for large jackpot games and on January 31, players in 33 jurisdictions will be able to purchase tickets for both Powerball and Mega Millions. "Before the agreement, jurisdictions could only sell either Powerball or Mega Million," said Lottery Director Randy Miller. "With the addition of Mega Millions, we will be able to offer four large jackpot drawings each week, benefiting our players, retailers and good causes."

Mega Millions has a base jackpot that starts at \$12 million and drawings are held Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 p.m. Central Time, with the first draw being held on Tuesday, February 2. To play Mega Millions, players pick five numbers from 1 to 56 and a Mega Ball from 1 to 46. The cost of each play is \$1 and for an extra dollar per play, players can purchase the Megaplier to multiply non-jackpot prizes up to four times. Odds of winning the jackpot are 1 in 175.7 million and overall odds of winning any prize are 1 in 39.89.

Miller stated that the Lottery is estimating an annual increase of ten percent or about \$2.2 million in sales by adding the new game, but stresses that in addition to increasing sales, it is important to meet players' needs. "Because of the heavy population base on the Eastern border, it is important to remain competitive to prevent sales from crossing the border. The goal is to keep North Dakota players in North Dakota," said Miller.

For more information on Mega Millions, visit the Lottery's website at [www.lottery.nd.gov](http://www.lottery.nd.gov). Winning numbers are posted on the Lottery's website or can be checked by calling the winning numbers hotline at 701-328-1111. Many television, radio, newspaper and other media outlets also carry the winning numbers.

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