

[REDACTED]
Orlando, Fla. 32804
Oct. 14, 1990

cc: S. Trahern ✓

OCT 17 REC'D
3431-90

NOV 19 ANS'D

Dear Mr. Lamb:

A caller on C-SPAN (call in segment Oct. 6, 1990) suggested a national lottery as another way of generating income to help ease the burden for taxpayers. My recollection is that you were on duty and handled the call. The caller's suggestion seems a good idea. However, the idea is not new; it has been mentioned in recent times by many people in an informal sort of way. Yet, there is little or no evidence the idea has gathered enough momentum to develop into an issue.

No doubt a lot of people would probably agree (including this writer) any form of gambling scheme is not the best way for the government to supplement revenue. Nevertheless, in these times of tight budget restraints, a lottery would be a less painful method of raising more revenue. For obvious reasons, the various states operating lotteries probably would oppose the idea rather vigorously. In any event, it appears proceeds from a lottery would at least help reduce the FY interest paid on the national debt.

The only lottery I'm familiar with is here in Florida. It seems to work OK, although

many people feel deceived since they were led by politicians to believe more of the proceeds would go for education. It really hasn't happened that way. Also, there are other complaints saying the big prize money should be more wide spread in smaller increments.

Perhaps the idea of a national lottery may be important enough for C-SPAN to consider a program for open discussion in the near future. Suggest the idea be given favorable consideration in forthcoming program schedules.

Very Truly Yours
