

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R1255 SLO-D

S.B. 966  
By: Averitt  
Finance  
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### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, the comptroller of public accounts of the State of Texas (comptroller) is not authorized to contract with banking and marketing firms to issue credit or debit cards that would benefit public schools. As proposed, S.B. 966 allows the comptroller to enter into an agreement with a credit or debit card issuer for the benefit of public schools. Also, the credit or debit card holder would be able to designate a particular school or school district as the beneficiary.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 403B, Government Code, by adding Section 403.0232, as follows:

Sec. 403.0232. CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD AGREEMENT BENEFITTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS. (a) Defines "debit card."

(b) Authorizes the comptroller of public accounts of the State of Texas (comptroller) to enter an agreement with a credit or debit card issuer under which the issuer is required to pay a certain amount of money to the comptroller and the issuer is permitted to take certain actions.

(c) Requires the form of any representation of benefit to public schools and the design of credit or debit cards issued under the agreement to be approved by the comptroller.

(d) Requires to comptroller, in evaluating an issuer's proposal to enter into an agreement under this section, to consider certain issues.

(e) Requires the agreement between the comptroller and the issuer to allow the cardholder to designate a particular school district as the recipient of money generated by the cardholder's credit or debit card use and, to the extent practicable, allow the cardholder to designate a particular school. Requires the comptroller to deposit money received under this section to the credit of the foundation school fund, if the cardholder does not designate a particular school district or school.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.