

By: Hamilton, Giddings, Menendez

H.B. No. 898

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the use of state travel services by public junior
3 colleges and school districts.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 2171.055, Government Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

7 (f) An officer or employee of a public junior college, as
8 defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, or of a school district
9 who is engaged in official business may participate in the
10 commission's contract for travel services. The commission may
11 charge a participating public junior college or school district a
12 fee not to exceed the costs incurred by the commission in providing
13 services under this subsection. The commission shall periodically
14 review fees and shall adjust them as needed to ensure recovery of
15 costs incurred in providing services to public junior colleges and
16 school districts under this subsection. The commission shall
17 deposit the fees collected under this subsection to the credit of
18 the public education travel account. The public education travel
19 account is an account in the general revenue fund that may be
20 appropriated only for the purposes of this chapter. The commission
21 shall adopt rules and make or amend contracts as necessary to
22 administer this subsection.

23 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 44, Education Code, is
24 amended by adding Section 44.044 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 44.044. LIMIT ON EXPENDITURES FOR TRAVEL SERVICES. A
2 school district or public junior college may not reimburse an
3 officer or employee for expenditures for travel services in excess
4 of the applicable amount determined using the state travel
5 allowance guide adopted by the comptroller under Section 660.021,
6 Government Code.

7 SECTION 3. Section 44.044, Education Code, as added by this
8 Act, applies only to reimbursement of an officer or employee of a
9 school district or junior college district for an expenditure for
10 travel services made after August 31, 2003. Reimbursement of an
11 officer or employee of a school district or junior college district
12 for an expenditure for travel services made before September 1,
13 2003, is governed by the law in effect at the time the expenditure
14 was made, and the former law is continued in effect for that
15 purpose.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.