

1-1 By: Hamilton, Giddings, Menendez H.B. No. 898  
1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Staples)  
1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 9, 2003;  
1-4 April 14, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-5 Intergovernmental Relations; May 16, 2003, reported favorably by  
1-6 the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 16, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the use of state travel services by public junior  
1-10 colleges and school districts.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 2171.055, Government Code, is amended by  
1-13 adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

1-14 (f) An officer or employee of a public junior college, as  
1-15 defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, or of a school district  
1-16 who is engaged in official business may participate in the  
1-17 commission's contract for travel services. The commission may  
1-18 charge a participating public junior college or school district a  
1-19 fee not to exceed the costs incurred by the commission in providing  
1-20 services under this subsection. The commission shall periodically  
1-21 review fees and shall adjust them as needed to ensure recovery of  
1-22 costs incurred in providing services to public junior colleges and  
1-23 school districts under this subsection. The commission shall  
1-24 deposit the fees collected under this subsection to the credit of  
1-25 the public education travel account. The public education travel  
1-26 account is an account in the general revenue fund that may be  
1-27 appropriated only for the purposes of this chapter. The commission  
1-28 shall adopt rules and make or amend contracts as necessary to  
1-29 administer this subsection.

1-30 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 44, Education Code, is  
1-31 amended by adding Section 44.044 to read as follows:

1-32 Sec. 44.044. LIMIT ON EXPENDITURES FOR TRAVEL SERVICES. A  
1-33 school district or public junior college may not reimburse an  
1-34 officer or employee for expenditures for travel services in excess  
1-35 of the applicable amount determined using the state travel  
1-36 allowance guide adopted by the comptroller under Section 660.021,  
1-37 Government Code.

1-38 SECTION 3. Section 44.044, Education Code, as added by this  
1-39 Act, applies only to reimbursement of an officer or employee of a  
1-40 school district or junior college district for an expenditure for  
1-41 travel services made after August 31, 2003. Reimbursement of an  
1-42 officer or employee of a school district or junior college district  
1-43 for an expenditure for travel services made before September 1,  
1-44 2003, is governed by the law in effect at the time the expenditure  
1-45 was made, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
1-46 purpose.

1-47 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

1-48 \* \* \* \* \*