

By: Menendez

H.B. No. 2845

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the ability of state agencies to use the Internet and
3 other resources to obtain more cost-effective travel reservations
4 and tickets for state employees.

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

6 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 2171.0521, Government
7 Code, is amended to read as follows:

8 Sec. 2171.0521. ONLINE RESERVATION AND TICKETING
9 CAPABILITY; USE OF INTERNET AND OTHER RESOURCES.

10 SECTION 2. Section 2171.0521(c), Government Code, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (c) A state agency shall ~~may~~ use the online reservation
13 and ticketing capability, the Internet, or other available
14 resources to try to locate the most cost-effective ~~make~~ travel
15 reservations or tickets for a state employee traveling on state
16 business. The agency may obtain a reservation or ticket through the
17 online reservation and ticketing capability, the Internet, or
18 another resource only if the ticket or reservation is shown, by
19 information kept by the agency for review by the commission, to be
20 at least as cost-effective as, or more cost-effective than, similar
21 available reservations or tickets.

22 SECTION 3. Section 2171.055(a), Government Code, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 (a) State agencies in the executive branch of state

1 government shall participate under commission rules in the
2 commission's contracts for travel services, provided that:

3 (1) all travel agents approved by the commission are
4 permitted to contract with the state and provide travel services to
5 all state agencies; and

6 (2) a state agency shall, subject to Section
7 2171.056(b), use the Internet, the online reservation and ticketing
8 capability, or other resources to obtain the most cost-effective
9 travel arrangements.

10 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.