

By: Estes

S.B. No. 474

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the comptroller of public accounts' use of electronic paycards to make certain payments.

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

SECTION 1. Section 403.016, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (k) to read as follows:

(k) Notwithstanding another provision of this section, the comptroller may make a payment in any amount to a state employee under Subsection (b) or to an annuitant under Subsection (c)(1) or other law on an electronic paycard if the employee or annuitant agrees to accept payment by that method.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 403, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 403.0161 to read as follows:

Sec. 403.0161. CONTRACTS FOR ELECTRONIC PAYCARD SERVICES. The comptroller shall contract with one or more vendors for the provision of electronic paycard services. A contract under this section must be by competitive bid. The comptroller shall specify the qualifications for bidders, which must include requirements that the entity that issues the paycard must:

(1) be federally insured or possess sufficient financial resources to ensure protection of payees; and

(2) demonstrate adequate 24-hour customer service to ensure that all payees are able to reasonably access their funds worldwide at any time.

1 SECTION 3. Section 659.084, Government Code, is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Sec. 659.084. ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER. Salaries for
4 state officers and employees paid once a month shall be paid through
5 electronic funds transfer under Section 403.016 unless paid on an
6 electronic paycard or warrant as permitted under that section.

7 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect January 1, 2010.