

By: Harper-Brown

H.B. No. 2962

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of a credit or charge card by certain state agencies to make certain purchases.

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

SECTION 1. Section 403.023, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

(b-1) Except as provided by Subsection (b-2), if the comptroller adopts rules authorized under Subsection (b), the rules must:

(1) require a state agency in the executive branch of state government to use a credit or charge card to pay for all purchases unless the comptroller determines that another method of payment is more advantageous to the state;

(2) require a state agency that uses a credit or charge card to make a purchase to post on the agency's Internet website a list of all purchases made with the credit or charge card, provided that the agency is not required to post any confidential information; and

(3) prohibit an employee of a state agency in the executive branch of state government from using a personal credit or charge card to pay for the state agency's purchases.

(b-2) Subsection (b-1) does not apply to:

(1) an institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code; or

1           (2) the office of the governor.

2           SECTION 2. Section 660.021, Government Code, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4           Sec. 660.021. RULES. (a) The comptroller shall adopt rules  
5 for the effective and efficient administration of this chapter and  
6 the travel provisions of the General Appropriations Act.

7           (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the rules adopted  
8 by the comptroller under this section must require that if a state  
9 agency in the executive branch of state government participates in  
10 a program administered by the comptroller that allows the agency to  
11 use a credit or charge card to pay for travel expenses:

12           (1) the agency shall use the credit or charge card to  
13 pay for travel expenses required for agency travel, unless the  
14 comptroller determines that another method of payment is more  
15 advantageous to the state;

16           (2) the agency shall post on the agency's Internet  
17 website a list of all purchases made with the credit or charge card,  
18 provided that the agency is not required to post any confidential  
19 information; and

20           (3) an employee of the agency may not use the  
21 employee's personal credit or charge card to pay for travel  
22 expenses required for agency travel.

23           (c) Subsection (b) does not apply to:

24           (1) an institution of higher education as defined by  
25 Section 61.003, Education Code; or

26           (2) the office of the governor.

27           SECTION 3. Subchapter B, Chapter 2171, Government Code, is

1 amended by adding Section 2171.0521 to read as follows:

2 Sec. 2171.0521. PAYMENT FOR TRAVEL SERVICES WITH CREDIT OR  
3 CHARGE CARD. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), if a state  
4 agency in the executive branch of state government participates in  
5 a program administered by the comptroller that allows the agency to  
6 use a credit or charge card to purchase travel services:

7 (1) the agency shall use the credit or charge card to  
8 purchase travel services required for agency travel, unless the  
9 comptroller determines that another method of purchase is more  
10 advantageous to the state;

11 (2) the agency shall post on the agency's Internet  
12 website a list of all purchases made with the credit or charge card,  
13 provided that the agency is not required to post any confidential  
14 information; and

15 (3) an employee of the agency may not use the  
16 employee's personal credit or charge card to purchase travel  
17 services required for agency travel.

18 (b) This section does not apply to:

19 (1) an institution of higher education as defined by  
20 Section 61.003, Education Code; or

21 (2) the office of the governor.

22 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.