

By: Galindo

H.B. No. 1743

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the use of a credit or charge card by certain state
3 agencies to make certain purchases.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (2) the office of the governor.

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

23 Sec. 660.021. RULES. (a) The comptroller shall adopt rules
24 for the effective and efficient administration of this chapter and

1 the travel provisions of the General Appropriations Act.

2 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the rules adopted
3 by the comptroller under this section must require that 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 pay for travel expenses:

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

11 (2) an employee of the agency may not use the
12 employee's personal credit or charge card to pay for travel
13 expenses required for agency travel.

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

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

17 (2) the office of the governor.

18 SECTION 3. Subchapter B, Chapter 2171, Government Code, is
19 amended by adding Section 2171.0521 to read as follows:

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

25 (1) the agency shall use the credit or charge card to
26 purchase travel services required for agency travel, unless the
27 comptroller determines that another method of purchase is more

1 advantageous to the state; and

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

5 (b) This section does not apply to:

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

8 (2) the office of the governor.

9 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.