BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R7178 JSA-D

C.S.S.B. 481
By: Harris
Higher Education
3/9/1999
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST

Currently, Section 62.021(a), Education Code, prohibits the comptroller from using payment from the Higher Education Assistance Fund, Article VII, Section 17, Texas Constitution, until goods are received, unless the payment is for principal or interest on bonds or notes. Many higher education libraries are unable to prepay periodical subscriptions. This bill would allow higher education libraries to pay for books and other published library materials prior to delivery.

PURPOSE

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 481 authorizes the comptroller of public accounts to issue a warrant from funds for the purchase of library materials by certain institutions of higher education.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 62.021(a), Education Code, to prohibit the comptroller of public accounts from issuing a warrant from funds, prior to the delivery of goods or services, except for the purchase of books and other published library materials as provided by Section 2155.386, Government Code. Sets forth the formula under which the funds are allocated in the section to certain higher education institutions, including Texas A&M University--Commerce, Texas A&M University--Texarkana, and Rio Grande College, rather than East Texas State University, East Texas State University at Texarkana, and Uvalde Center, respectively.

SECTION 2.   Emergency clause.
              Effective date: upon passage.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Relating clause.

>   Amends the relating clause regarding the type of materials that may be purchased by certain higher education institutions with constitutional funds.

SECTION 1.

>   Amends Section 62.021(a), Education Code, to include the purchase of books or other published library materials among the items from which the comptroller may issue a warrant.