

and

Steidley of the House

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 1991, Section 500.11, which relates to the State Travel Reimbursement Act; authorizing certain state employees to use alternate forms of transportation; providing exception for reimbursement in lieu of certain plane fares; providing criteria for measuring distances for certain reimbursement; requiring vicinity travel be entered as separate item; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 500.11, is amended to read as follows:

Section 500.11 A. Authorized persons traveling on official state business outside of the State of Oklahoma may utilize appropriate forms of transportation, including but not limited to, common carriers, transit system carriers, state owned or privately owned motor vehicles or airplanes, contract rental motor vehicles, commuter airplanes, or transportation by private parties to reach their destinations.

B. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this section, reimbursement for out of state transportation costs as authorized by this section shall not exceed the normal charge for the type of transportation used, but in no instance shall reimbursement for transportation used in lieu of commercial airplane exceed the cost of coach class air fare.

2. Reimbursement for travel by commercial airplane on a first-class basis may be made if coach class space is not available within a reasonable time and is justified by attachment to claim for reimbursement.

3. Claims for reimbursement for transportation by commercial airline shall be accompanied by the passenger's duplicate of airline ticket, or other airline receipt which includes information as to class of accommodation for which reimbursement is claimed.

4. If commuter airlines are the only airlines available to reach a destination, reimbursement for transportation used in lieu of commuter air fare shall not exceed the cost of the commuter air fare.

C. Reimbursement for authorized use of privately owned motor vehicles or vehicles from motor vehicle rental agencies used for out-of-state travel shall be limited to the actual cost for such vehicle but in no instance shall reimbursement for such vehicle exceed the cost for commercial coach class air fare or commuter air fare, whichever is appropriate. Distances for which reimbursement for use of privately owned motor vehicles or vehicles from vehicle rental agencies is claimed shall not exceed distances set forth in a recognized published national atlas or road map. Vicinity travel on official business shall be entered on travel claims as a separate item.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.