



## OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

TWO COMMODORE PLAZA  
206 EAST NINTH STREET, SUITE 1900  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

LAWRENCE F. ALWIN,  
State Auditor

February 11, 1998

Members of the Legislative Audit Committee:

The control system in place at the offices of the Attorney General and the Comptroller of Public Accounts effectively ensures that the State pays only judgments and settlements meeting the requirements of General Appropriations Act, Article IX, Section 60. The system also ensures that the Legislature and the Governor are able to monitor such expenditures effectively.

Article IX, Section 60 requires that judgments and settlements, which are paid from appropriated funds, must be approved by the Governor and the Attorney General. The offices of the Attorney General and the Comptroller of Public Accounts have primary responsibility for ensuring that all such payments are properly approved. Article IX, Section 60 also requires that the Attorney General's Office regularly report all such payments over \$5,000 to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office of Budget and Planning. The State Auditor is required to verify compliance with the provisions of Article IX, Section 60, for all appropriated funds.

We commend the offices of the Attorney General and the Comptroller of Public Accounts for their continuing efforts to ensure compliance with the provisions of this appropriation rider and thank the employees of both agencies for their assistance during this audit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lawrence F. Alwin".

Lawrence F. Alwin, CPA  
State Auditor

khm

cc. The Honorable George W. Bush, Governor  
The Honorable Dan Morales, Attorney General  
The Honorable John Sharp, Comptroller of Public Accounts  
Mr. John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board