June 24, 1998

Members of the Legislative Audit Committee:

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Texas Commission for the Blind have adequate management controls over the Vocational Rehabilitation Program (Program). The Program helps eligible persons with mental and physical disabilities obtain employment. During fiscal year 1997, the agencies spent approximately $194.6 million on the Program.

Each agency has a system to ensure compliance with federal regulations for the Program, and the systems are working adequately. Both agencies have addressed prior audit recommendations in the area of contract management, and a review of case management at each agency uncovered no significant issues.

The objective of the audit was to determine whether the Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Texas Commission of the Blind have adequate management controls over the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. We focused our scope on compliance with federal regulations, contract management, and case management. Conventional audit procedures were applied, and the audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation shown by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Texas Commission for the Blind during the course of this audit.

Sincerely,

Lawrence F. Alwin, CPA
State Auditor

cc: Texas Rehabilitation Commission Board Members
    Texas Commission for the Blind Board Members

SAO Report No. 98-046