



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
AUSTIN**

**GERALD C. MANN
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**Hon. Geo. H. Sheppard
Comptroller of Public Accounts
Austin, Texas**

Dear Sir:

Opinion No. 0-1799

Re: Approval of Expense Accounts of R.A. Manire and J.B. Rutland, State Director and Supervisor respectively, of the Division of Vocational Agriculture of the State Department of Education for traveling expenses to attend the conference of all state directors and supervisors at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

We have your request for opinion of January 3, 1940 on the above subject. It is our opinion that these expense accounts may properly be paid, for reasons hereinafter set out.

This meeting of state directors and supervisors of vocational education doubtless comes within the meaning of the word "convention" as used in the departmental appropriation bill, being S.B. No. 427, Regular Session, Forty-sixth Legislature. However, as stated in our opinion No. 0-1340, addressed to the Honorable L.A. Woods, on the same question, federal monies deposited in the state treasury are controlled by the following provision in the general rider to the departmental appropriation bill (S.B. 427):

"Any such federal funds as may be deposited in the state treasury are hereby appropriated to the specific purpose authorized by the federal government."

Trips such as the one for which these expenses were incurred were specifically authorized in the Act of Congress appropriating the money here involved, being Act No. 673 of the Seventy-fourth Congress approved June 8, 1936, from which Act we quote as follows:

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" * * * and that the appropriations available under Section 4 of this Act shall be available for expenses on attendance at meeting of educational associations and other organizations and for expenses of conferees called to meet in the District of Columbia or elsewhere, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, are necessary for the efficient discharge of the provisions of this Act."

We have been advised that this convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan was specifically called by the Federal Director of Vocational Education and therefore the traveling expenses necessary for the attendance at said meeting would clearly come within the specified purposes contained in the above quotation from the Act of Congress appropriating this federal money to the state of Texas.

Yours very truly

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

By *Walter R. Koch*
Walter R. Koch,
Assistant

WRK:ob

P. S: The expense accounts and your file are returned herewith.

APPROVED JAN 16, 1940

Genesee Mann
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

