

DOCUMENT RESUME

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[ Department of Transportation's Decision to Contract Out Travel Office Functions]. LCD-78-217; B-103215. February 27, 1978. Released March 27, 1978. 2 pp.

Report to Sen. Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.; by Robert G. Rothwell (for Fred J. Shafer, Director, Logistics and Communications Div.).

Issue Area: Facilities and Material Management (700); Federal Procurement of Goods and Services: OMB Guidelines for Relying on the Private Sector to Supply Federal Needs (1906).

Contact: Logistics and Communications Div.

Budget Function: Commerce and Transportation: Other Transportation (407).

Organization Concerned: Department of Transportation; Air Transport Association.

Congressional Relevance: Sen. Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.

Concern was expressed over the contracting-out of travel functions at the Department of Transportation and the possible effect of such an action on the jobs of employees of the travel office. The Department is negotiating with the Air Transportation Association to install a scheduled airline ticket office at the Department which would be staffed and managed by commercial airline employees and would provide travel services to the Department's employees. There is no contract involved, and the only obligation on the part of the Government is to provide necessary office space. The Department estimates that it can save \$120,000 annually by establishing such an office. Only 8 of the 15 current travel office employees will be needed after the commercial office becomes operational. These employees will handle administrative work, foreign travel, and visas, and will monitor the new operation. The remaining seven employees will be assisted by the Department in finding suitable jobs. (RRS)

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Released  
3/27/78



UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

100-100000/15300 (1)

LOGISTICS AND COMMUNICATIONS  
DIVISION

87 FEB 1978

B-103315

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.  
United States Senate

Dear Senator Mathias:

In your letter of November 22, 1977, you asked us to investigate a constituent's complaint involving the contracting-out of travel functions at the Department of Transportation. The constituent was concerned about the effect such an action might have on the jobs of employees of the travel office.

The Department is negotiating with the Air Transport Association to install a Scheduled Airline Ticket Office at the Department. The office would be staffed and managed by commercial airline employees, and would provide travel service to the Department's employees located in the immediate vicinity. There is no contract involved, and the only obligation on the part of the Government is to provide necessary office space. The Department estimates that it can save \$120,000 annually by establishing such an office.

The Department has determined that only 8 of the 15 current travel office employees will be needed after the commercial office becomes operational. These employees will handle administrative work, foreign travel, and visas; and will monitor the new operation. The remaining seven employees will be assisted by the Department to find suitable jobs. The Department has also promised to provide re-training assistance for those employees who elect to take new positions. The employees' union has expressed satisfaction with the way the Department handled the matter.

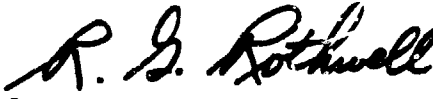
We discussed the situation with your constituent. The individual has subsequently transferred to a new position with the Federal Aviation Administration. However, the constituent is now satisfied that the Department is making every effort to protect the interests of employees in the travel office.

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LCD-78-217  
(943324)

We trust this information will assist you in responding to your constituent's inquiry. This report will be released for distribution to interested parties in 30 days unless you publicly announce its contents earlier.

Sincerely yours,

  
for F. J. Shafer  
Director