

By: Murphy

H.B. No. 173

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund
3 capital projects at public institutions of higher education.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is
6 amended by adding Sections 55.1791, 55.1792, 55.1793, 55.1794,
7 55.1795, 55.1796, 55.1797, 55.1798, 55.1799, and 55.17991 to read
8 as follows:

9 Sec. 55.1791. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
10 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
11 subchapter, the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System
12 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
13 equip property and facilities, including roads and related
14 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
15 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a
16 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
17 following institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate
18 principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

19 (1) Tarleton State University, \$63 million for
20 construction of a College of Health Sciences and Human Services
21 building;

22 (2) Texas A&M University, \$175 million for
23 construction of a veterinary clinical research building;

24 (3) Texas A&M University--Commerce, \$95 million for

1 construction of an agricultural education and research complex;

2 (4) Texas A&M University at Galveston, \$40.5 million
3 for construction of an engineering classroom and research building;

4 (5) Texas A&M University--Kingsville, \$60 million to
5 address deferred maintenance;

6 (6) West Texas A&M University, \$33,353,000 for repairs
7 and renovations to nine buildings to address health and safety
8 issues identified in the state fire marshal's report; and

9 (7) The Texas A&M University System Health Science
10 Center:

11 (A) \$90 million for construction of the Texas
12 Medical Center Building 3 in Houston, Texas; and

13 (B) \$36 million for construction of a nursing
14 education and research center in McAllen, Texas.

15 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
16 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
17 an institution, branch, or entity of The Texas A&M University
18 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
19 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
20 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
21 bonds, are outstanding.

22 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
23 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
24 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of The Texas A&M
25 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
26 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
27 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

1 Sec. 55.1792. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
2 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
3 subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas System
4 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
5 equip property and facilities, including roads and related
6 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
7 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a
8 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
9 following institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate
10 principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

11 (1) The University of Texas at Arlington, \$120,600,000
12 for renovation of the Life Science Building;

13 (2) The University of Texas at Austin, \$90 million for
14 renovation of the Physics, Math, and Astronomy Building;

15 (3) The University of Texas at Dallas, \$76.5 million
16 for construction of a student success center;

17 (4) The University of Texas Permian Basin, \$63 million
18 for renovation of the Mesa Building and campus transformation;

19 (5) The University of Texas--Rio Grande Valley,
20 \$68,400,000 for construction of a health affairs building;

21 (6) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$68,400,000 for
22 construction of a sciences building;

23 (7) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
24 Houston, \$90 million for construction of a public health education
25 and research building;

26 (8) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
27 San Antonio, \$99 million for construction of the Institute for

1 Alzheimer's & Neurodegenerative Diseases Building;

2 (9) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
3 Tyler, \$63 million for construction of a health professions
4 education center;

5 (10) The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer
6 Center, \$90 million for construction of a life sciences research,
7 innovation, and discovery initiative facility; and

8 (11) The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
9 Center at Dallas, \$90,144,468 for construction of the north campus
10 Phase VI Brain Institute shell space.

11 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
12 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
13 an institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas
14 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
15 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
16 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
17 bonds, are outstanding.

18 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
19 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
20 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of The University
21 of Texas System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
22 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
23 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

24 Sec. 55.1793. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
25 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
26 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
27 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,

1 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
2 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
3 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
4 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
5 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
6 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
7 as follows:

8 (1) the University of Houston System, \$92,250,000 for
9 construction of the Katy Academic Building 2;

10 (2) the University of Houston, \$39,513,206 for
11 renovation of the Hobby School of Public Affairs Building;

12 (3) the University of Houston--Victoria:

13 (A) \$33,825,000 for construction of a health
14 science building; and

15 (B) \$39,975,000 for construction of an
16 engineering facility; and

17 (4) the University of Houston--Downtown, \$10 million
18 for the construction of the Police Department and Criminal Justice
19 Academy Building.

20 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
21 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
22 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of Houston
23 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
24 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
25 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
26 bonds, are outstanding.

27 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to

1 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
2 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the University
3 of Houston System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
4 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
5 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

6 Sec. 55.1794. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
7 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
8 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University
9 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
10 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
11 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
12 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
13 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
14 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
15 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
16 as follows:

17 (1) Lamar State College--Orange, \$42 million for the
18 replacement of an academic building to house general academic
19 instruction and information technology services;

20 (2) Lamar State College--Port Arthur, \$55 million for
21 construction of an allied health and sciences building;

22 (3) Lamar Institute of Technology, \$48 million for
23 construction of a facility for workforce and allied health
24 programs; and

25 (4) Texas State University, \$88 million for
26 construction of a health professions building located in Round
27 Rock, Texas.

1 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
2 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
3 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas State University
4 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
5 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
6 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
7 bonds, are outstanding.

8 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
9 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
10 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State
11 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
12 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
13 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

14 Sec. 55.1795. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
15 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
16 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas
17 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
18 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
19 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
20 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
21 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
22 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
23 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
24 as follows:

25 (1) the University of North Texas:

26 (A) \$126 million for construction of a science
27 and technology research building; and

1 (B) \$85 million for construction of a commerce,
2 analytics, technology, and engineering building in Frisco, Texas;

3 (2) the University of North Texas at Dallas, \$163
4 million for construction of a science building; and

5 (3) the University of North Texas Health Science
6 Center at Fort Worth, \$42 million for renovation of four buildings.

7 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
8 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
9 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of North Texas
10 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
11 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
12 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
13 bonds, are outstanding.

14 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
15 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
16 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the University
17 of North Texas System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
18 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
19 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

20 Sec. 55.1796. TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL BONDS.

21 (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter,
22 the board of regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire,
23 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
24 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for a
25 health sciences center, to be financed through the issuance of
26 bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
27 aggregate principal amount of \$108 million.

1 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
2 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
3 Texas Woman's University, including student tuition charges. The
4 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
5 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
6 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

7 Sec. 55.1797. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY;
8 ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted
9 by this subchapter, the board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State
10 University may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
11 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
12 related infrastructure, for demolition of the Miller Science
13 Building, renovation of the Forestry Building, and construction of
14 a new addition, to be financed through the issuance of bonds in
15 accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the aggregate
16 principal amount of \$53 million.

17 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
18 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
19 Stephen F. Austin State University, including student tuition
20 charges. The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not
21 be reduced or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is
22 made, or bonds issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

23 Sec. 55.1798. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
24 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
25 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
26 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
27 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and

1 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
2 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
3 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
4 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
5 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
6 as follows:

7 (1) Texas Tech University, \$72 million for renovations
8 and maintenance for campus buildings;

9 (2) Midwestern State University, \$41 million for
10 renovation of an existing building;

11 (3) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, \$90
12 million for maintenance and renovation of an existing facility; and

13 (4) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El
14 Paso, \$163,080,000 for construction of a dental school building.

15 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
16 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
17 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas Tech University
18 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
19 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
20 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
21 bonds, are outstanding.

22 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
23 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
24 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas Tech
25 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
26 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
27 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

1 Sec. 55.1799. TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL BONDS.

2 (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter,
3 the board of regents of Texas Southern University may acquire,
4 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
5 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for
6 projects to be financed through the issuance of bonds in accordance
7 with this subchapter, not to exceed the following aggregate
8 principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

9 (1) \$22,800,000 for renovation of an existing research
10 labs building; and

11 (2) \$59 million for construction of a student housing
12 and multipurpose conference center.

13 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
14 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
15 Texas Southern University, including student tuition charges. The
16 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
17 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
18 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

19 Sec. 55.17991. TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM. (a)

20 In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
21 board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may
22 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
23 property and facilities, including roads and related
24 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
25 bonds in accordance with this subchapter for the following entity
26 and institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal
27 amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

1 (1) Texas State Technical College System, \$33,300,000
2 for the East Williamson County Higher Education Center expansion;

3 (2) Texas State Technical College--Fort Bend,
4 \$41,800,000 for Fort Bend County campus expansion; and

5 (3) Texas State Technical College--Harlingen,
6 \$37,800,000 for Harlingen campus expansion.

7 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
8 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
9 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas State Technical
10 College System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a
11 pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated
12 while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to
13 refund those bonds, are outstanding.

14 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
15 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
16 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State
17 Technical College System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
18 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
19 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

20 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect any authority or
21 restriction regarding the activities that a public institution of
22 higher education may conduct in connection with a facility financed
23 by bonds authorized by this Act.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the
25 last day of the legislative session.