

By: Creighton, et al.

S.B. No. 52

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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

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

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

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

(1) Texas A&M University, \$125 million for construction of a clinical veterinary teaching and research complex;

(2) Texas A&M University--Central Texas, \$40 million for construction of a central plant and infrastructure upgrades;

(3) Texas A&M University--Commerce, \$40 million for

1 infrastructure upgrades to address accessibility for persons with
2 disabilities and health and safety issues;

3 (4) Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, \$30 million
4 to address deferred maintenance;

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

7 (6) Prairie View A&M University, \$60 million for
8 construction of a teaching and academic student support services
9 facility;

10 (7) West Texas A&M University, \$65,750,000 for
11 infrastructure upgrades to address health and safety issues and the
12 renovation of an education building;

13 (8) Texas A&M University--San Antonio, \$50 million for
14 construction of a public health and education building;

15 (9) Texas A&M International University, \$70 million
16 for construction of a health science education and research center;

17 (10) Texas A&M University--Texarkana, \$46 million for
18 construction of a business, engineering, and technology building;
19 and

20 (11) The Texas A&M University System Health Science
21 Center, \$55 million for construction of the Texas Medical Center
22 Building 3 in Houston, Texas.

23 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
24 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
25 an institution, branch, or entity of The Texas A&M University
26 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
27 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the

1 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
2 bonds, are outstanding.

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

9 Sec. 55.1792. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
10 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
11 subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas 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) The University of Texas at Austin, \$74 million for
20 renovation of the Microelectronics Research Center at the
21 J. J. Pickle Research Campus;

22 (2) The University of Texas at Arlington, \$101,200,000
23 for renovation of the Life Science Building;

24 (3) The University of Texas at Dallas, \$62 million for
25 construction of a student success center;

26 (4) The University of Texas at El Paso, \$74 million for
27 construction of an advanced teaching and learning complex;

1 (5) The University of Texas of the Permian Basin, \$50
2 million for renovation of the Mesa Building;

3 (6) The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, \$35
4 million to address deferred maintenance;

5 (7) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
6 Tyler, \$48 million for construction of a health professions
7 education center;

8 (8) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$54,800,000 for
9 construction of a sciences building;

10 (9) The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer
11 Center, \$74 million for construction of a life sciences research,
12 innovation, and discovery facility; and

13 (10) The University of Texas Medical Branch at
14 Galveston, \$81,358,171 for infrastructure and research space
15 upgrades for research buildings.

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

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

1 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

2 Sec. 55.1793. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
3 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
4 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
5 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
6 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
7 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
8 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
9 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
10 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
11 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
12 as follows:

13 (1) the University of Houston System, \$113 million for
14 construction of a medical research facility;

15 (2) the University of Houston, \$118,800,000 for
16 construction of the IDEA Lab;

17 (3) the University of Houston--Clear Lake, \$60 million
18 for renovation of the Bayou Building, the Delta Building, and the
19 Student Services and Classroom Building;

20 (4) the University of Houston--Downtown, \$15 million
21 for additions to the Girard Street Building; and

22 (5) the University of Houston--Victoria, \$21,280,469
23 for renovation of existing buildings and other campus
24 infrastructure upgrades.

25 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
26 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
27 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of Houston

1 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
2 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
3 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
4 bonds, are outstanding.

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

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

22 (1) Lamar State College--Orange, \$42 million for the
23 construction of an academic building to house general academic
24 instruction and information technology services;

25 (2) Lamar Institute of Technology, \$48 million for
26 construction of a facility for workforce and allied health
27 programs;

1 (3) Lamar University, \$75 million for renovation of a
2 library;

3 (4) Sam Houston State University, \$70 million for
4 construction of an allied health building located in Conroe, Texas;
5 and

6 (5) Texas State University, \$141,300,000 for
7 construction of a STEM classroom building and health professions
8 building.

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

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

22 Sec. 55.1795. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
23 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
24 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas
25 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
26 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
27 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the

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

6 (1) the University of North Texas, \$113,400,000 for
7 construction of a science and technology research building;

8 (2) the University of North Texas at Dallas, \$140
9 million for construction of a science building; and

10 (3) the University of North Texas Health Science
11 Center at Fort Worth, \$84 million for campus space optimization and
12 realignment.

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 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of North Texas
16 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
17 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
18 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
19 bonds, are outstanding.

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

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

27 (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter,

1 the board of regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire,
2 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
3 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for
4 construction of a health sciences center, to be financed through
5 the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to
6 exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$108 million.

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 Texas Woman's University, including student tuition charges. The
10 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
11 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
12 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

13 Sec. 55.1797. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY;
14 ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted
15 by this subchapter, the board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State
16 University may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
17 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
18 related infrastructure, for construction of an interdisciplinary
19 and applied sciences building, to be financed through the issuance
20 of bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
21 aggregate principal amount of \$53 million.

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

1 Sec. 55.1798. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
2 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
3 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
4 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
5 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
6 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
7 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
8 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
9 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
10 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
11 as follows:

12 (1) Angelo State University, \$36 million for
13 maintenance and renovation of a central plant;

14 (2) Texas Tech University:

15 (A) \$72 million for renovations to address
16 deferred maintenance for campus buildings; and

17 (B) \$8 million for maintenance and program
18 enhancement construction in Junction, Texas;

19 (3) Midwestern State University, \$50 million for
20 renovation of the Bolin Science Hall and other infrastructure; and

21 (4) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, \$90
22 million for maintenance and renovation of an existing facility.

23 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
24 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
25 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas Tech University
26 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
27 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the

1 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
2 bonds, are outstanding.

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

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

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

17 (1) \$22,800,000 for renovation of the Nabrit Building;

18 (2) \$2,400,000 for upgrades to signage and wayfinding;

19 (3) \$40 million for facility maintenance and
20 renovation; and

21 (4) \$30 million for construction of a health and
22 wellness center.

23 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
24 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
25 Texas Southern University, including student tuition charges. The
26 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
27 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds

1 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

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

3 In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the

4 board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may

5 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip

6 property and facilities, including roads and related

7 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of

8 bonds in accordance with this subchapter for the following entity

9 and institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal

10 amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

11 (1) Texas State Technical College System, \$33,300,000
12 for the Williamson County campus site phase II;

13 (2) Texas State Technical College--Fort Bend,
14 \$41,800,000 for construction of phase II of the campus site;

15 (3) Texas State Technical College--Harlingen,
16 \$37,800,000 for construction of an industrial technology
17 performance learning center;

18 (4) Texas State Technical College--Marshall, \$15
19 million for construction of an industrial technology performance
20 learning center;

21 (5) Texas State Technical College--North Texas, \$13.5
22 million for construction of phase II of the campus site;

23 (6) Texas State Technical College--West Texas, \$13.5
24 million for construction of phase II of the campus site located in
25 Abilene, Texas; and

26 (7) Texas State Technical College--Waco, \$53,600,000
27 for construction of an industrial technology performance learning

1 center.

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

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

15 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is
16 amended by adding Section 55.111 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 55.111. CERTAIN ALLOCATED FUNDS TO BE DESIGNATED AS
18 CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE PROJECTS. For purposes of this
19 subchapter, funds allocated from the appropriation of general
20 revenue to an institution of higher education to supplement revenue
21 funds of the institution described by Section 55.13(a) may be
22 designated as "Capital Construction Assistance Projects."

23 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect any authority or
24 restriction regarding the activities that a public institution of
25 higher education may conduct in connection with a facility financed
26 by bonds authorized by this Act.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the

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1 last day of the legislative session.