

AN ACT

relating to financing authority for certain institutions of higher education for facilities.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 55.1735, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas System may issue in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board bonds for the following institutions not to exceed the following aggregate principal amounts to finance projects specified as follows:

(1) the University of North Texas, \$52,933,750 to construct a science building and to develop the campus and facilities of the University of North Texas System Center at Dallas at the location to become the University of North Texas at Dallas; and

(2) the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, \$27.5 million to construct a biotechnology center and school of public health building.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 55.1744 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1744. SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL

1 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this  
2 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University  
3 System may issue bonds in accordance with this subchapter in the  
4 aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$27 million to finance the  
5 acquisition, purchase, construction, improvement, renovation,  
6 enlargement, or equipping of property, buildings, structures,  
7 facilities, or related infrastructure for a multi-institutional  
8 education center in Williamson County for Southwest Texas State  
9 University to offer educational programs and supporting activities  
10 and provide facilities for other educational entities to further  
11 institutional efficiency and coordinate educational programs.

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

18 SECTION 3. Subsection (e), Section 61.0572, Education Code,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real  
21 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)  
22 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), ~~[or]~~  
23 55.174, or 55.1744, except that the board shall review all real  
24 property to be financed by bonds issued under those sections to  
25 determine whether the property meets the standards adopted by the  
26 board for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the property does not  
27 meet those standards, the board shall notify the governor, the

1 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,  
2 and the Legislative Budget Board.

3 SECTION 4. Subsection (b), Section 61.058, Education Code,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or  
6 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)  
7 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), ~~[or]~~  
8 55.174, or 55.1744, except that the board shall review all  
9 construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be financed by bonds  
10 issued under those sections to determine whether the construction,  
11 rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards adopted by board rule  
12 for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the construction,  
13 rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those standards, the board  
14 shall notify the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of  
15 the house of representatives, and the Legislative Budget Board.

16 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

H.B. No. 2522

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2522 was passed by the House on May 8, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 137, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2522 on May 30, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 137, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2522 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor