

By: Janek, Ellis

S.B. No. 609

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for The
3 University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston for recovery
4 from Tropical Storm Allison.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 55.17321 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 55.17321. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
9 REVENUE BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by
10 this subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas
11 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
12 enlarge, or equip property, buildings, structures, facilities,
13 roads, or related infrastructure for The University of Texas Health
14 Science Center at Houston for recovery from the damage caused by
15 Tropical Storm Allison, to be financed by the issuance of bonds in
16 accordance with this subchapter, including bonds issued in
17 accordance with its systemwide revenue financing program and
18 secured as provided by that program in aggregate principal amounts
19 not to exceed \$34.9 million.

20 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of the
21 bonds authorized by Subsection (a) all or any part of the revenue
22 funds of an institution, branch, or entity of The University of
23 Texas System, including student tuition charges required or
24 authorized by law to be imposed on students enrolled at an

1 institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas System.
2 The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced
3 or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
4 issued to refund those 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 Texas System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
9 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
10 entity to carry out its constitutional and statutory duties and
11 purposes.

12 SECTION 2. Subsection (e), Section 61.0572, Education Code,
13 is amended to read as follows:

14 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real
15 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
16 or (4) or Sections 55.1713-55.174~~[, 55.1713-55.1718,~~
17 ~~55.1721-55.1728, or 55.174]~~, except that the board shall review all
18 real property to be financed by bonds issued under those sections to
19 determine whether the property meets the standards adopted by the
20 board for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the property does not
21 meet those standards, the board shall notify the governor, the
22 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,
23 and the Legislative Budget Board.

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

26 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or
27 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)

1 or (4) or Sections 55.1713-55.174~~[, ~~55.1713-55.1718,~~~~
2 ~~55.1721-55.1728, or 55.174]~~, except that the board shall review all
3 construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be financed by bonds
4 issued under those sections to determine whether the construction,
5 rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards adopted by board rule
6 for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the construction,
7 rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those standards, the board
8 shall notify the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of
9 the house of representatives, and the Legislative Budget Board.

10 SECTION 4. (a) This Act takes effect immediately if it
11 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
12 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
13 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
14 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

15 (b) If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
16 immediate effect, the debt service on bonds authorized by Section 1
17 of this Act may not come due before September 1, 2005.