

By: Staples, Deuell, Eltife

S.B. No. 58

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund
3 capital projects at certain public institutions of higher
4 education.

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 Sections 55.1752 and 55.1758 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 55.1752. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
9 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
10 subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas System
11 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
12 equip facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for
13 projects to be financed through the issuance of bonds in accordance
14 with this subchapter and in accordance with a systemwide revenue
15 financing program adopted by the board for the following
16 institutions not to exceed the following aggregate principal
17 amounts for the projects specified as follows:

18 (1) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$81,000,000 for
19 a classroom building and other facilities, including facilities at
20 branch campuses; and

21 (2) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
22 Tyler, \$32,400,000 for educational and related facilities,
23 including an academic center.

24 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds

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

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

13 Sec. 55.1758. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. (a) In
14 addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
15 board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State University may acquire,
16 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
17 property, buildings, structures, or other facilities, including
18 roads and related infrastructure, at Stephen F. Austin State
19 University, to be financed by the issuance of bonds in accordance
20 with this subchapter in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed
21 \$65,450,000.

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

1 outstanding.

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

4 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real
5 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
6 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,
7 55.1742, 55.1743, [~~or~~] 55.1744, 55.1752, or 55.1758, except that
8 the board shall review all real property to be financed by bonds
9 issued under those sections to determine whether the property meets
10 the standards adopted by the board for cost, efficiency, and space
11 use. If the property does not meet those standards, the board shall
12 notify the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the
13 house of representatives, and the Legislative Budget Board.

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

16 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or
17 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
18 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,
19 55.1743, [~~or~~] 55.1744, 55.1752, or 55.1758, except that the board
20 shall review all construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be
21 financed by bonds issued under those sections to determine whether
22 the construction, rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards
23 adopted by board rule for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the
24 construction, rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those
25 standards, the board shall notify the governor, the lieutenant
26 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
27 Legislative Budget Board.

1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
6 legislative session.