

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 61

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for Texas A&M  
3 International University.

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 Section 55.1751 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 55.1751. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL  
8 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this  
9 subchapter, the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System  
10 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or  
11 equip property, buildings, structures, or other facilities,  
12 including roads and related infrastructure, to construct a building  
13 for the center for homeland security, a student success center, and  
14 a support services facility, and to renovate the utility services  
15 and upgrade infrastructure for Texas A&M International University,  
16 to be financed by the issuance of bonds in accordance with this  
17 subchapter, including bonds issued in accordance with a systemwide  
18 revenue financing program and secured as provided by that program,  
19 in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$47 million.

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

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

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

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

11 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real  
12 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)  
13 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,  
14 55.1742, 55.1743, ~~55.1744~~, or 55.1751, except that the board  
15 shall review all real property to be financed by bonds issued under  
16 those sections to determine whether the property meets the  
17 standards adopted by the board for cost, efficiency, and space use.  
18 If the property does not meet those standards, the board shall  
19 notify the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the  
20 house of representatives, and the Legislative Budget Board.

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

23 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or  
24 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)  
25 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,  
26 55.1743, ~~55.1744~~, or 55.1751, except that the board shall  
27 review all construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be financed

1 by bonds issued under those sections to determine whether the  
2 construction, rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards  
3 adopted by board rule for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the  
4 construction, rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those  
5 standards, the board shall notify the governor, the lieutenant  
6 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the  
7 Legislative Budget Board.

8 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.