

By: Ellis

S.B. No. 83

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for the
3 University of Houston--Downtown.

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 55.17531 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 55.17531. THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
8 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
9 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
10 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
11 enlarge, or equip property, buildings, structures, or other
12 facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for the
13 University of Houston--Downtown, to be financed by the issuance of
14 bonds in accordance with this subchapter, including bonds issued in
15 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program and secured
16 as provided by that program, in an aggregate principal amount not to
17 exceed \$30 million.

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

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

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

9 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real
10 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
11 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,
12 55.1742, 55.1743, ~~or~~ 55.1744, or 55.17531, except that the board
13 shall review all real property to be financed by bonds issued under
14 those sections to determine whether the property meets the
15 standards adopted by the board for cost, efficiency, and space use.
16 If the property does not meet those standards, the board shall
17 notify the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the
18 house of representatives, and the Legislative Budget Board.

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

21 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or
22 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
23 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,
24 55.1743, ~~or~~ 55.1744, or 55.17531, except that the board shall
25 review all construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be financed
26 by bonds issued under those sections to determine whether the
27 construction, rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards

1 adopted by board rule for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the
2 construction, rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those
3 standards, the board shall notify the governor, the lieutenant
4 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
5 Legislative Budget Board.

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