

AN ACT

relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds or other obligations to fund capital projects at public institutions of higher education; making an appropriation.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is amended by adding Sections 55.1751, 55.1752, 55.1753, 55.1754, 55.1755, 55.1756, 55.1757, 55.1758, 55.1759, 55.17591, and 55.17592 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1751. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the following institutions and facilities not to exceed the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified as follows:

(1) Tarleton State University:

(A) \$11,124,000 for the Tarleton State University Dairy Center; and

(B) \$24,300,000 for a nursing building;

(2) Texas A&M University--Central Texas, \$25 million

1 for educational and related facilities;

2 (3) Texas A&M University--Commerce, \$21,770,000 for a
3 music building;

4 (4) Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, \$45 million
5 for a nursing, health sciences, and kinesiology facility;

6 (5) Texas A&M University--Kingsville, \$9,540,000 for
7 the citrus center building;

8 (6) Texas A&M University--San Antonio, \$40 million for
9 educational and related facilities;

10 (7) Texas A&M University--Texarkana, \$75 million for a
11 multipurpose library building and central plant;

12 (8) West Texas A&M University, \$16,200,000 for
13 classroom center renovation;

14 (9) The Texas A&M University System Health Science
15 Center, \$45 million for a medical education and research building
16 in College Station, Texas;

17 (10) Texas A&M University, \$75 million for the
18 Emerging Technologies Interdisciplinary Building;

19 (11) Texas A&M University at Galveston, \$40,050,000
20 for a science building; and

21 (12) Texas A&M International University:

22 (A) \$25 million for the student success center;

23 (B) \$4,950,000 for the completion of the fine
24 arts theater; and

25 (C) \$7,626,600 for the Loop Road and Chill Water
26 Loop project.

27 (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 Texas A&M University
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 Texas A&M
10 University 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 (d) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), The Texas A&M
14 University System may not issue bonds under this section for
15 facilities at Texas A&M University--Central Texas until the Texas
16 Higher Education Coordinating Board certifies that enrollment at
17 Texas A&M University--Central Texas has reached an enrollment
18 equivalent of 1,500 full-time students for one semester. If that
19 enrollment is not reached by January 1, 2010, the system's
20 authority to issue bonds for Texas A&M University--Central Texas
21 under this section expires on that date.

22 (e) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), The Texas A&M
23 University System may not issue bonds under this section for
24 facilities at Texas A&M University--San Antonio until the Texas
25 Higher Education Coordinating Board certifies that enrollment at
26 Texas A&M University--San Antonio has reached an enrollment
27 equivalent of 1,500 full-time students for one semester. If that

1 enrollment is not reached by January 1, 2010, the system's
2 authority to issue bonds for Texas A&M University--San Antonio
3 under this section expires on that date.

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

14 (1) The University of Texas at Arlington, \$70,430,000
15 for an Engineering Research Building;

16 (2) The University of Texas at Austin, \$105 million
17 for the renovation of the Experimental Science Building;

18 (3) The University of Texas at Brownsville,
19 \$33,800,000 for a Science and Technology Learning Center;

20 (4) The University of Texas at Dallas, \$12 million for
21 a vivarium and experimental space;

22 (5) The University of Texas at El Paso, \$76,500,000
23 for a physical sciences/engineering core facility;

24 (6) The University of Texas--Pan American:

25 (A) \$6 million for the Starr County Upper Level
26 Center; and

27 (B) \$39,796,000 for the fine arts academic and

1 performance complex;

2 (7) The University of Texas of the Permian Basin:

3 (A) \$54 million for a science and technology
4 complex; and

5 (B) \$45 million for an arts convocation and
6 classroom facility at the CEED;

7 (8) The University of Texas at San Antonio,
8 \$74,250,000 for an engineering building (phase II);

9 (9) The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
10 Center at Dallas, \$42 million for the north campus (phase 5);

11 (10) The University of Texas Medical Branch at
12 Galveston, \$57 million for the Galveston National Laboratory;

13 (11) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
14 Houston, \$60 million for a replacement building for The University
15 of Texas Dental Branch at Houston;

16 (12) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
17 San Antonio, \$60 million for the South Texas Research Facility;

18 (13) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
19 Tyler, \$21,120,000 for an academic health center;

20 (14) The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer
21 Center, \$40 million for a Center for Targeted Therapy research
22 building; and

23 (15) The University of Texas at Tyler:

24 (A) \$6,300,000 for the expansion of the Palestine
25 campus; and

26 (B) \$43,200,000 for the completion, renovation,
27 and expansion of engineering and sciences facilities.

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

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

14 Sec. 55.1753. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
15 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
16 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
17 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
18 enlarge, or equip facilities, including roads and related
19 infrastructure, for the following institutions, to be financed
20 through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter
21 and in accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program
22 adopted by the board, in aggregate principal amounts not to exceed
23 the following:

24 (1) the University of Houston, \$57,600,000 for
25 renovation of science laboratories;

26 (2) the University of Houston--Clear Lake,
27 \$10,604,808 for Arbor Building renovations and additions;

1 (3) the University of Houston--Downtown, \$31,626,000
2 for a classroom building at Shea Street; and

3 (4) the University of Houston--Victoria:

4 (A) \$22,900,000 for an academic building at the
5 University of Houston System Center at Sugar Land;

6 (B) \$6,719,400 for regional economic
7 development; and

8 (C) \$1,800,000 for allied health facilities.

9 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
10 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
11 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of Houston
12 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
13 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
14 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
15 bonds, are outstanding.

16 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
17 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
18 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the University
19 of Houston System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
20 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
21 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

22 Sec. 55.1754. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
23 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
24 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University
25 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
26 enlarge, or equip facilities, including roads and related
27 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of

1 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a
2 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
3 following institutions not to exceed the following aggregate
4 principal amounts for the projects specified as follows:

5 (1) Lamar University, \$4,500,000 for renovations and
6 additions to the Lucas Engineering Building;

7 (2) Lamar State College--Orange, \$1,837,280 for
8 Hibernia Bank Building acquisition and renovation;

9 (3) Lamar State College--Port Arthur, \$1,849,500 for a
10 computer/learning center;

11 (4) Texas State University--San Marcos:

12 (A) \$42,700,000 for an undergraduate academic
13 center; and

14 (B) \$36 million for facilities for the Round Rock
15 Higher Education Center in Williamson County (phase II); and

16 (5) Sam Houston State University, \$10 million for the
17 construction of a center for the performing arts (phase I).

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

25 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
26 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
27 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State

1 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
2 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
3 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

4 Sec. 55.1755. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
5 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
6 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas
7 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
8 enlarge, or equip facilities, including roads and related
9 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
10 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a
11 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
12 following institutions and facilities not to exceed the following
13 aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified as follows:

14 (1) the University of North Texas, \$50 million for the
15 construction of a College of Business Administration building;

16 (2) the University of North Texas Health Science
17 Center at Fort Worth, \$41,972,400 for campus expansion and
18 construction of a public health education building; and

19 (3) the University of North Texas Dallas Campus, \$25
20 million for a general academic building.

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

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

7 (d) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the University of North
8 Texas System may not issue bonds under this section for facilities
9 at the University of North Texas Dallas Campus until the Texas
10 Higher Education Coordinating Board certifies that enrollment at
11 the University of North Texas Dallas Campus has reached an
12 enrollment equivalent of 1,500 full-time students for one semester.
13 If that enrollment is not reached by January 1, 2010, the system's
14 authority to issue bonds for the University of North Texas Dallas
15 Campus under this section expires on that date.

16 Sec. 55.1756. TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY. (a) In addition to
17 the other authority granted by this subchapter, the board of
18 regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire, purchase,
19 construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip facilities,
20 including roads and related infrastructure, for renovations and
21 additions to the science building on the Denton campus of Texas
22 Woman's University, to be financed through the issuance of bonds in
23 accordance with this subchapter in an aggregate principal amount
24 not to exceed \$21,739,712.

25 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
26 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
27 Texas Woman's University, including student tuition charges. The

1 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
2 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
3 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

4 Sec. 55.1757. MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
5 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
6 subchapter, the board of regents of Midwestern State University may
7 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
8 facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for
9 projects at Midwestern State University, to be financed through the
10 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter not to exceed
11 the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects
12 specified as follows:

13 (1) \$7,700,000 for the renovation of the D. L. Ligon
14 Building; and

15 (2) \$2,700,000 for the Fowler Engineering Building.

16 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
17 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
18 Midwestern State University, including student tuition charges.
19 The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced
20 or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
21 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

22 Sec. 55.1758. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. (a) In
23 addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
24 board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State University may acquire,
25 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
26 facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for
27 projects at Stephen F. Austin State University, to be financed

1 through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter
2 not to exceed the following aggregate principal amounts for the
3 projects specified as follows:

4 (1) \$20,178,000 for an education research facility;
5 and

6 (2) \$10 million for a campus deferred maintenance
7 reduction plan.

8 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
9 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
10 Stephen F. Austin State University, including student tuition
11 charges. The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not
12 be reduced or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is
13 made, or bonds issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

14 Sec. 55.1759. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
15 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
16 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
17 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
18 enlarge, or equip facilities, including roads and related
19 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
20 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a
21 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board not to
22 exceed the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects
23 specified as follows:

24 (1) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center:

25 (A) \$8,010,000 for the School of Pharmacy
26 expansion in Amarillo;

27 (B) \$18 million for the Amarillo research

1 facility; and

2 (C) \$6,300,000 for the El Paso Medical Science
3 Building renovation; and

4 (2) Texas Tech University:

5 (A) \$25 million for the renovation of a classroom
6 building;

7 (B) \$25 million for the Rawls College of Business
8 Administration building; and

9 (C) \$7,500,000 for a law school trial
10 advocacy/education center.

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

18 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
19 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
20 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas Tech
21 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
22 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
23 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

24 Sec. 55.17591. TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
25 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
26 subchapter, the board of regents of Texas Southern University may
27 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip

1 facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for
2 projects at Texas Southern University, to be financed through the
3 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter not to exceed
4 the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects
5 specified as follows:

6 (1) \$31,500,000 for the School of Science and
7 Technology; and

8 (2) \$15 million for a branch campus multipurpose
9 Academic Center (MAC).

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

16 (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the board of regents of
17 Texas Southern University may not issue bonds under this section
18 for a branch campus multipurpose Academic Center (MAC) until the
19 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants Texas Southern
20 University the approval to operate the branch campus. If approval
21 to operate the branch campus is not granted by January 1, 2010, the
22 board of regents' authority to issue bonds for a multipurpose
23 Academic Center (MAC) under this section expires on that date.

24 Sec. 55.17592. TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM. (a)
25 In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
26 board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may
27 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip

1 property, buildings, structures, facilities, roads, or related
2 infrastructure, for HVAC replacement at Texas State Technical
3 College--Waco, to be financed by the issuance of bonds in
4 accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a systemwide
5 revenue financing program adopted by the board, in an aggregate
6 principal amount not to exceed \$3,125,520.

7 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of those
8 bonds all or any part of the revenue funds of an institution,
9 branch, or entity of the Texas State Technical College System,
10 including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge made
11 under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
12 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
13 bonds, are outstanding.

14 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
15 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
16 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State
17 Technical College System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
18 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
19 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

20 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is
21 amended by adding Section 55.17521 to read as follows:

22 Sec. 55.17521. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS: LIMITATIONS
23 ON CERTAIN DEBT SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT. The state may not
24 appropriate money to reimburse The University of Texas System for
25 debt service on long-term obligations related to the construction
26 of a natural science and engineering research building at The
27 University of Texas at Dallas in accordance with the economic

1 development agreement entered into between this state and the board
2 of regents of the system in excess of the following amounts:

3 (1) for a state fiscal year before the state fiscal
4 year ending August 31, 2018, \$6,540,600;

5 (2) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2018,
6 \$6,213,570;

7 (3) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2019,
8 \$5,559,510;

9 (4) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2020,
10 \$4,905,450;

11 (5) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2021,
12 \$4,251,390;

13 (6) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2022,
14 \$3,597,330;

15 (7) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2023,
16 \$2,616,240;

17 (8) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2024,
18 or August 31, 2025, \$1,308,120; and

19 (9) for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2026,
20 or August 31, 2027, \$654,060.

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

23 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real
24 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
25 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,
26 55.1742, 55.1743, ~~or~~ 55.1744, or 55.1751-55.17592, except that
27 the board shall review all real property to be financed by bonds

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

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

8 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or
9 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
10 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,
11 55.1743, [~~or~~] 55.1744, or 55.1751-55.17592, except that the board
12 shall review all construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be
13 financed by bonds issued under those sections to determine whether
14 the construction, rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards
15 adopted by board rule for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the
16 construction, rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those
17 standards, the board shall notify the governor, the lieutenant
18 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
19 Legislative Budget Board.

20 SECTION 5. Section 1371.001(4), Government Code, is amended
21 to read as follows:

- 22 (4) "Issuer" means:
- 23 (A) a home-rule municipality that:
- 24 (i) adopted its charter under Section 5,
25 Article XI, Texas Constitution;
- 26 (ii) has a population of 50,000 or more; and
- 27 (iii) has outstanding long-term

1 indebtedness that is rated by a nationally recognized rating agency
2 for municipal securities in one of the four highest rating
3 categories for a long-term obligation;

4 (B) a conservation and reclamation district
5 created and organized as a river authority under Section 52,
6 Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution;

7 (C) a joint powers agency organized and operating
8 under Chapter 163, Utilities Code;

9 (D) a metropolitan rapid transit authority or
10 regional transportation authority created, organized, and
11 operating under Chapter 451 or 452, Transportation Code;

12 (E) a conservation and reclamation district
13 organized or operating as a navigation district under Section 52,
14 Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution;

15 (F) a district organized or operating under
16 Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, that has all or part of
17 two or more municipalities within its boundaries;

18 (G) a state agency, including a state institution
19 of higher education;

20 (H) a hospital authority created or operating
21 under Chapter 262 or 264, Health and Safety Code, in a county that:

22 (i) has a population of more than 3.3
23 million; or

24 (ii) is included, in whole or in part, in a
25 standard metropolitan statistical area of this state that includes
26 a county with a population of more than 2.2 million;

27 (I) a hospital district in a county that has a

1 population of more than two million;

2 (J) a nonprofit corporation organized to
3 exercise the powers of a higher education loan authority under
4 Section 53B.47(e), Education Code;

5 (K) a county:

6 (i) that has a population of 3.3 million or
7 more; or

8 (ii) that, on the date of issuance of
9 obligations under this chapter, has authorized, outstanding, or any
10 combination of authorized and outstanding, indebtedness of at least
11 \$100 million secured by and payable from the county's ad valorem
12 taxes and the authorized long-term indebtedness of which is rated
13 by a nationally recognized rating agency of securities issued by
14 local governments in one of the four highest rating categories for a
15 long-term obligation;

16 (L) an independent school district that has an
17 average daily attendance of 50,000 or more as determined under
18 Section 42.005, Education Code;

19 (M) a municipality or county operating under
20 Chapter 334, Local Government Code; ~~or~~

21 (N) a district created under Chapter 335, Local
22 Government Code; or

23 (O) a junior college district that has a total
24 headcount enrollment of 40,000 or more based on enrollment in the
25 most recent regular semester.

26 SECTION 6. UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS: REIMBURSEMENT
27 FOR CERTAIN DEBT SERVICE. In addition to other amounts previously

1 appropriated for the state fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2007,
2 the amount of \$5.3 million is appropriated out of the general
3 revenue fund to The University of Texas System for the remainder of
4 the state fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2007, for the purpose of
5 addressing the demonstrated need for science and engineering
6 research facilities at The University of Texas at Dallas by
7 reimbursing The University of Texas System for debt service paid on
8 the long-term obligations related to the construction of a natural
9 science and engineering research building at The University of
10 Texas at Dallas in accordance with the economic development
11 agreement entered into between this state and the board of regents
12 of the system. Of the amount appropriated by this section, at least
13 \$1.2 million shall be expended for the purpose of reimbursing debt
14 service payments made during the remainder of the state fiscal year
15 ending August 31, 2006.

16 SECTION 7. This Act does not affect any authority or
17 restriction regarding the activities that a public institution of
18 higher education may conduct in connection with a facility financed
19 by bonds authorized by this Act.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 153 was passed by the House on May 11, 2006, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 153 on May 15, 2006, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 3, 1 present, not voting; passed subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 49a, of the Constitution of the State of Texas.

Chief Clerk of the House

H.B. No. 153

I certify that H.B. No. 153 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 14, 2006, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 49a, of the Constitution of the State of Texas.

Secretary of the Senate

I certify that the amounts appropriated in the herein H.B. No. 153, 3rd Called Session of the 79th Legislature, are within amounts estimated to be available in the affected fund.

Certified _____

Comptroller of Public Accounts

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor