

By: Williams, Janek

S.B. No. 23

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the costs of damages to Lamar University and its related  
3 institutions caused by Hurricane Rita; making an appropriation.

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

5 SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "Lamar University or  
6 its related institutions" includes Lamar University and its  
7 educational centers, Lamar Institute of Technology, Lamar State  
8 College--Port Arthur, and Lamar State College--Orange.

9 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION. (a) In addition to amounts  
10 previously appropriated for the state fiscal biennium ending August  
11 31, 2007, the amount of \$33,500,000 is appropriated out of the  
12 general revenue fund to the Texas State University System for the  
13 remainder of the state fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2007, to  
14 pay the costs of or reimburse expenditures for repairing or  
15 replacing buildings and equipment damaged by Hurricane Rita at  
16 Lamar University or its related institutions.

17 (b) The Texas State University System shall distribute the  
18 money appropriated by Subsection (a) of this section to Lamar  
19 University and its related institutions, allocating the money among  
20 Lamar University and its related institutions as the system  
21 considers appropriate to address the hurricane-related needs of  
22 those institutions.

23 SECTION 3. FEDERAL MONEY. (a) If the Texas State  
24 University System, Lamar University or its related institutions, or

1 another state agency, institution, or office receives  
2 reimbursement from the federal government for expenditures made by  
3 the state for the purposes described by Section 2 of this Act, the  
4 amounts received may not be spent without the prior approval of the  
5 governor and the Legislative Budget Board and any state statute  
6 dedicating that money for a particular purpose does not apply.

7 (b) It is the intent of the legislature that the governor  
8 and the Legislative Budget Board consider the money described by  
9 Subsection (a) of this section to be available for budget execution  
10 transfers to the extent that the governor and the Legislative  
11 Budget Board determine that the federal reimbursement covers the  
12 same costs or expenditures as those covered by the appropriation  
13 made by this Act.

14 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect  
15 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members  
16 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas  
17 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for  
18 immediate effect, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
19 last day of the legislative session.