

By: Krusee

H.B. No. 3720

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for the Texas A&M University--Central Texas East Williamson County Higher Education Center.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 55.1761 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1761. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted under this subchapter, the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property, buildings, structures, facilities, roads, or related infrastructure for the Texas A&M University--Central Texas East Williamson County Higher Education Center, to be financed by the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter, including bonds issued in accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program and secured as provided by that program, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$22 million.

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

1 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

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

8 (d) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), The Texas A&M
9 University System may not issue bonds under this section for the
10 Texas A&M University--Central Texas East Williamson County Higher
11 Education Center unless the center is established by the system. If
12 the Texas A&M University--Central Texas East Williamson County
13 Higher Education Center is not established by January 1, 2009, the
14 system's authority to issue bonds for the center under this section
15 expires on that date.

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

18 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real
19 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
20 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,
21 55.1742, 55.1743, 55.1744, ~~or~~ 55.1751-55.17592, or 55.1761,
22 except that the board shall review all real property to be financed
23 by bonds issued under those sections to determine whether the
24 property meets the standards adopted by the board for cost,
25 efficiency, and space use. If the property does not meet those
26 standards, the board shall notify the governor, the lieutenant
27 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the

1 Legislative Budget Board.

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

4 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or
5 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
6 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,
7 55.1743, 55.1744, ~~[or]~~ 55.1751-55.17592, or 55.1761, except that
8 the board shall review all construction, repair, or rehabilitation
9 to be financed by bonds issued under those sections to determine
10 whether the construction, rehabilitation, or repair meets the
11 standards adopted by board rule for cost, efficiency, and space
12 use. If the construction, rehabilitation, or repair does not meet
13 those standards, the board shall notify the governor, the
14 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,
15 and the Legislative Budget Board.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.