

By: Gallegos

S.B. No. 260

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for the University of Houston Center for Mexican American Studies.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 55.1763 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1763. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted under this subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property, buildings, structures, facilities, roads, or related infrastructure for the University of Houston Center for Mexican American Studies, 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 \$5.6 million.

(b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of the bonds authorized by Subsection (a) all or any part of the revenue funds of an institution, branch, or entity of the University of Houston 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 issued to refund those 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 Houston 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        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, 55.1744, [~~or~~] 55.1751-55.17592, or 55.1763,  
13 except that the board shall review all real property to be financed  
14 by bonds issued under those sections to determine whether the  
15 property meets the standards adopted by the board for cost,  
16 efficiency, and space use. If the property 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 3. Section 61.058(b), Education Code, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22        (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or  
23 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)  
24 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,  
25 55.1743, 55.1744, [~~or~~] 55.1751-55.17592, or 55.1763, except that  
26 the board shall review all construction, repair, or rehabilitation  
27 to be financed by bonds issued under those sections to determine

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

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