

Amend CSHB 3646 by adding the following SECTION to the bill, appropriately numbered, and renumbering the subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. (a) Section 26.08, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (p) to read as follows:

(p) Notwithstanding Subsections (i), (n), and (o), if for the preceding tax year a school district adopted a maintenance and operations tax rate that was less than the district's effective maintenance and operations tax rate for that preceding tax year, the rollback tax rate of the district for the current tax year is calculated as if the district adopted a maintenance and operations tax rate for the preceding tax year that was equal to the district's effective maintenance and operations tax rate for that preceding tax year.

(b) Subsection (a), Section 45.001, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The governing board of an independent school district, including the city council or commission that has jurisdiction over a municipally controlled independent school district, the governing board of a rural high school district, and the commissioners court of a county, on behalf of each common school district under its jurisdiction, may:

(1) issue bonds for:

(A) the construction, acquisition, and equipment of school buildings in the district;

(B) the acquisition of property or the refinancing of property financed under a contract entered under Subchapter A, Chapter 271, Local Government Code, regardless of whether payment obligations under the contract are due in the current year or a future year;

(C) the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings; and

(D) the purchase of new school buses; and

(2) may levy, pledge, assess, and collect annual ad valorem taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as or before the principal and interest become due, subject to Section 45.003.

(c) The change in law made by this section applies to the ad valorem tax rate of a school district beginning with the 2009 tax year, except as provided by Subsection (d) of this section.

(d) If the governing body of a school district adopted an ad valorem tax rate for the school district for the 2009 tax year before the effective date of this section, the change in law made by this section applies to the ad valorem tax rate of that school district beginning with the 2010 tax year, and the law in effect when the tax rate was adopted applies to the 2009 tax year with respect to that school district.

(e) This section takes effect immediately if this Act receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this section takes effect September 1, 2009.