

By: Villarreal

H.B. No. 2337

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the guaranteed level of state and local funds under the  
3 existing debt allotment for school districts whose construction or  
4 renovation design plans are highly rated for environmental  
5 efficiency.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 46.032, Education Code, is amended by  
8 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

9 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the dollar amount  
10 guaranteed level of state and local funds per student per cent of  
11 tax effort ("EDGL") for purposes of that subsection is \$37 or a  
12 greater amount for any year provided by appropriation for eligible  
13 bonds described by Section 46.0321.

14 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 46, Education Code, is  
15 amended by adding Section 46.0321 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 46.0321. GREATER ALLOTMENT FOR CERTAIN BONDS. (a) In  
17 this section, "instructional facility" has the meaning assigned by  
18 Section 46.001.

19 (b) A school district is entitled to an allotment under this  
20 subchapter based on the dollar amount guaranteed level of state and  
21 local funds per student per cent of tax effort ("EDGL") under  
22 Section 46.032(a-1) for the payment of eligible bonds that were  
23 issued to construct a new instructional facility or conduct a major  
24 renovation of an existing instructional facility if during the

1 design phase of the construction or renovation the design of the  
2 proposed construction or renovation was awarded a sufficiently high  
3 score, as specified by rule of the State Energy Conservation  
4 Office, by an organization that is approved by the State Energy  
5 Conservation Office and that provides a program for rating  
6 environmental efficiency in the design and construction or  
7 renovation of buildings, such as:

8 (1) the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design  
9 (LEED) Green Building Rating System;

10 (2) the Texas Collaborative for High Performance  
11 Schools (TX-CHPS) Criteria; or

12 (3) the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes  
13 program.

14 (c) The State Energy Conservation Office by rule shall:

15 (1) adopt standards an organization must meet to be  
16 approved for purposes of Subsection (b); and

17 (2) for each approved organization, specify the  
18 overall score required to be awarded by the organization for a  
19 construction or renovation design to qualify a school district for  
20 entitlement to a greater allotment under Section 46.032(a-1).

21 (d) In determining an overall score to specify under  
22 Subsection (c)(2), the State Energy Conservation Office shall  
23 consult with an advisory panel that the office has established for  
24 that purpose and that includes at least one representative of a  
25 school district. The State Energy Conservation Office shall  
26 specify scores under Subsection (c)(2) so that the score specified  
27 for each organization represents, to the extent practicable, an

1 equal level of environmental efficiency in building or renovation  
2 design.

3 SECTION 3. Sections 46.032(a-1) and 46.0321, Education  
4 Code, as added by this Act, apply only to bonds issued by a school  
5 district on or after the effective date of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.