

By: Nichols

S.B. No. 597

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for a molecular science building at Stephen F. Austin State University.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 55.1778 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1778. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted under this subchapter, the board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State University may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property, buildings, structures, facilities, roads, or related infrastructure for a molecular science building at Stephen F. Austin State University, to be financed by the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$46 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 Stephen F. Austin State University, 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.

(c) Any portion of the proceeds of bonds authorized by this section that is not required for the specified project for which the

1 bonds are authorized may be used to renovate existing structures
2 and facilities at the institution.

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

5 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real
6 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
7 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,
8 55.1742, 55.1743, 55.1744, 55.1751-55.17592, [~~or~~] 55.1768, or
9 55.1778, except that the board shall review all real property to be
10 financed by bonds issued under those sections to determine whether
11 the property meets the standards adopted by the board for cost,
12 efficiency, and space use. If the property does not meet those
13 standards, the board shall notify the governor, the lieutenant
14 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
15 Legislative Budget Board.

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

18 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or
19 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
20 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,
21 55.1743, 55.1744, 55.1751-55.17592, [~~or~~] 55.1768, or 55.1778,
22 except that the board shall review all construction, repair, or
23 rehabilitation to be financed by bonds issued under those sections
24 to determine whether the construction, rehabilitation, or repair
25 meets the standards adopted by board rule for cost, efficiency, and
26 space use. If the construction, rehabilitation, or repair does not
27 meet those standards, the board shall notify the governor, the

1 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,
2 and the Legislative Budget Board.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.