

By: Watson

S.B. No. 20

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for The University of Texas at Austin.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 55.1782 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1782. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for an engineering education and research center for The University of Texas at Austin, 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 \$95 million.

(b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds authorized by Subsection (a) all or any part of the revenue funds of an institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas System, including tuition charges required or authorized by law to be imposed on students enrolled at an institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas System. The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the

1 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those  
2 bonds, are outstanding.

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

10 SECTION 2. (a) If S.B. No. 215, 83rd Legislature, Regular  
11 Session, 2013, does not become law, Subsection (e), Section  
12 61.0572, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

13 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real  
14 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)  
15 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,  
16 55.1742, 55.1743, 55.1744, 55.1751-55.17592, 55.1768, 55.1771,  
17 [~~or~~] 55.17721, or 55.1782, except that the board shall review all  
18 real property to be financed by bonds issued under those sections to  
19 determine whether the property meets the standards adopted by the  
20 board for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the property does not  
21 meet those standards, the board shall notify the governor, the  
22 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,  
23 and the Legislative Budget Board.

24 (b) If S.B. No. 215, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session,  
25 2013, becomes law, this section has no effect.

26 SECTION 3. (a) If S.B. No. 215, 83rd Legislature, Regular  
27 Session, 2013, does not become law, Subsection (b), Section 61.058,

1 Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or  
3 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)  
4 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,  
5 55.1743, 55.1744, 55.1751-55.17592, 55.1768, 55.1771, [~~or~~]  
6 55.17721, or 55.1782, except that the board shall review all  
7 construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be financed by bonds  
8 issued under those sections to determine whether the construction,  
9 rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards adopted by board rule  
10 for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the construction,  
11 rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those standards, the board  
12 shall notify the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of  
13 the house of representatives, and the Legislative Budget Board.

14 (b) If S.B. No. 215, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session,  
15 2013, becomes law, this section has no effect.

16 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect any authority or  
17 restriction regarding the activities that a public institution of  
18 higher education may conduct in connection with a facility financed  
19 by bonds authorized by this Act.

20 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect October 1, 2013.