

By: McClendon

H.B. No. 34

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund capital projects at public institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is amended by adding Sections 55.1781, 55.1782, and 55.17891 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1781. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

(1) Prairie View A&M University, \$12.8 million for critical deferred maintenance; and

(2) Texas A&M University--San Antonio, \$63 million for a science and technology building.

(b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of an institution, branch, or entity of The Texas A&M University

1 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
2 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
3 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
4 bonds, are outstanding.

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

11 Sec. 55.1782. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
12 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
13 subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas System
14 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
15 equip property and facilities, including roads and related
16 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
17 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a
18 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
19 following institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate
20 principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

21 (1) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
22 San Antonio, \$11.2 million for a South Texas diabetes institute and
23 for an enhanced performance laboratory of the Barshop Institute for
24 Longevity and Aging Studies; and

25 (2) The University of Texas at San Antonio, \$74.2
26 million for an experimental science instructional building.

27 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds

1 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
2 an institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas
3 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
4 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
5 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
6 bonds, are outstanding.

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

13 Sec. 55.17891. TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
14 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
15 subchapter, the board of regents of Texas Southern University may
16 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
17 property and facilities, including roads and related
18 infrastructure, for the Robert J. Terry Library at Texas Southern
19 University, to be financed through the issuance of bonds in
20 accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the aggregate
21 principal amount of \$52,814,129.

22 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
23 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
24 Texas Southern University, including student tuition charges. The
25 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
26 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
27 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

1 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect any authority or
2 restriction regarding the activities that a public institution of
3 higher education may conduct in connection with a facility financed
4 by bonds authorized by this Act.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the
6 last day of the legislative session.