

By: Rodriguez

S.B. No. 16

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund an  
3 interdisciplinary research facility at The University of Texas at  
4 El Paso.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 55.17821 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 55.17821. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL  
9 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this  
10 subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas System  
11 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or  
12 equip facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for  
13 an interdisciplinary research facility at The University of Texas  
14 at El Paso to be financed through the issuance of bonds in  
15 accordance with this subchapter, including bonds issued in  
16 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program and secured  
17 as provided by that program, in an aggregate principal amount not to  
18 exceed \$100 million.

19 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds  
20 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of  
21 an institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas  
22 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge  
23 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the  
24 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those

1 bonds, are outstanding.

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

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

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