

By: Rodriguez

S.B. No. 579

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund
3 capital projects on the El Paso campus of the Texas Tech University
4 Health Sciences Center.

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 55.1789 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 55.1789. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
9 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
10 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
11 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
12 enlarge, or equip facilities, including roads and related
13 infrastructure, for projects on the El Paso campus of the Texas Tech
14 University Health Sciences Center, to be financed through the
15 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
16 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
17 the board, not to exceed the following aggregate principal amounts
18 for the projects specified as follows:

19 (1) \$89.1 million for the El Paso Medical Science
20 Building II; and

21 (2) \$27 million for the El Paso Clinical Sciences
22 Building.

23 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of the
24 bonds authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue

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

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

12 (d) Any portion of the proceeds of bonds authorized by this
13 section that is not required for the specific project for which the
14 bonds are authorized may be used to renovate existing structures
15 and facilities at the El Paso campus of the Texas Tech University
16 Health Sciences Center.

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

19 (e) Approval of the board is not required to acquire real
20 property that is financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
21 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.1735(a)(1), 55.174,
22 55.1742, 55.1743, 55.1744, 55.1751-55.17592, 55.1768, 55.1771,
23 [~~or~~] 55.17721, or 55.1789, except that the board shall review all
24 real property to be financed by bonds issued under those sections to
25 determine whether the property meets the standards adopted by the
26 board for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the property 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 3. Section 61.058(b), Education Code, is amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (b) This section does not apply to construction, repair, or
6 rehabilitation financed by bonds issued under Section 55.17(e)(3)
7 or (4), 55.1713-55.1718, 55.1721-55.1728, 55.174, 55.1742,
8 55.1743, 55.1744, 55.1751-55.17592, 55.1768, 55.1771, [~~or~~]
9 55.17721, or 55.1789, except that the board shall review all
10 construction, repair, or rehabilitation to be financed by bonds
11 issued under those sections to determine whether the construction,
12 rehabilitation, or repair meets the standards adopted by board rule
13 for cost, efficiency, and space use. If the construction,
14 rehabilitation, or repair does not meet those standards, the board
15 shall notify the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of
16 the house of representatives, and the Legislative Budget Board.

17 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.