

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 21

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, 55.1783, 55.1784, 55.1785, 55.1786, 55.1787, 55.1788, 55.1789, 55.17891, and 55.17892 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) Texas A&M University--Commerce:

(A) \$54 million for a nursing and health sciences building; and

(B) \$54 million for a library and center for educational innovation and faculty development;

(2) Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi:

- 1 (A) \$120 million for a life sciences research and
2 engineering building; and
- 3 (B) \$50 million for an arts and media building;
- 4 (3) Texas A&M University--Kingsville, \$93 million for
5 a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics classroom
6 building;
- 7 (4) Texas A&M University--Texarkana, \$40 million for
8 an academic and student service building;
- 9 (5) West Texas A&M University:
- 10 (A) \$43 million for an agricultural sciences
11 complex; and
- 12 (B) \$10 million for the Amarillo Center Phase II;
- 13 (6) The Texas A&M University System Health Science
14 Center:
- 15 (A) \$80 million for a multidisciplinary research
16 and education facility in Bryan, Texas; and
- 17 (B) \$80 million for the A&M Baylor College of
18 Dentistry facility in Dallas, Texas;
- 19 (7) Texas A&M International University:
- 20 (A) \$62.1 million for library addition and
21 renovation; and
- 22 (B) \$66 million for repurpose of kinesiology
23 building;
- 24 (8) Prairie View A&M University:
- 25 (A) \$30,790,000 for a fabrication center and
26 capital improvements; and
- 27 (B) \$10 million for the Innovation

1 Commercialization Center for Entrepreneurs facility;

2 (9) Tarleton State University:

3 (A) \$55 million for the Southwest Metroplex
4 Building; and

5 (B) \$75 million for an applied sciences building;

6 (10) Texas A&M University:

7 (A) \$85 million for a biocontainment research
8 facility level 3; and

9 (B) \$90 million for classroom building and
10 renewal;

11 (11) Texas A&M University at Galveston, \$92 million
12 for expansion of instructional facilities, infrastructure and
13 central plant;

14 (12) Texas A&M University--Central Texas, \$40 million
15 for multi-purpose building III; and

16 (13) Texas A&M University--San Antonio:

17 (A) \$70 million for a science and technology
18 academic building; and

19 (B) \$16.5 million for central plant.

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

27 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to

1 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
2 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of The Texas A&M
3 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
4 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
5 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

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

16 (1) The University of Texas at Austin:
17 (A) \$100 million for Welch Hall renovation; and
18 (B) \$105 million for McCombs School of Business
19 renovation;

20 (2) The University of Texas--Rio Grande Valley:
21 (A) \$50.6 million for a multipurpose academic
22 center;
23 (B) \$45 million for coastal studies center
24 facility;

25 (C) \$42.5 million for interdisciplinary
26 engineering and academic studies building;

27 (D) \$50.4 million for fine arts and classroom

- 1 building; and
2 (E) \$54.7 million for student success and
3 administrative building;
4 (3) The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
5 Center, \$109.8 million for vivarium and aging research
6 infrastructure reinvestment;
7 (4) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
8 San Antonio, \$114 million for facilities renewal and modernization;
9 (5) The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer
10 Center, \$70 million for a personalized cancer care building;
11 (6) The University of Texas Medical Branch at
12 Galveston, \$67.8 million for a health education center;
13 (7) The University of Texas at Arlington:
14 (A) \$190 million for science and engineering
15 innovation research building; and
16 (B) \$99 million for college of nursing and allied
17 health professions academic and research building;
18 (8) The University of Texas at Dallas:
19 (A) \$99 million for an engineering building; and
20 (B) \$95 million for a science building;
21 (9) The University of Texas at El Paso:
22 (A) \$117 million for an interdisciplinary
23 research facility; and
24 (B) \$94.5 million for college of business
25 administration complex;
26 (10) The University of Texas at San Antonio:
27 (A) \$95 million for instructional science and

1 engineering building; and
2 (B) \$42.5 million for the Flawn Science Building
3 renovation;
4 (11) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$76 million for
5 a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics building
6 expansion and renovation;
7 (12) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
8 Houston:
9 (A) \$123.9 million for the renovation and
10 modernization of educational and research facilities; and
11 (B) \$91 million for academic and research
12 building;
13 (13) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
14 Tyler, \$15 million for facilities renewal and modernization; and
15 (14) The University of Texas of the Permian Basin:
16 (A) \$60 million for a School of Engineering
17 building; and
18 (B) \$6,250,600 for a kinesiology and athletic
19 training complex;
20 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
21 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
22 an institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas
23 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
24 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
25 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
26 bonds, are outstanding.
27 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to

1 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
2 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of The University
3 of Texas System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
4 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
5 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

6 Sec. 55.1783. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
7 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
8 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
9 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
10 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
11 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
12 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
13 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
14 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
15 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
16 as follows:

17 (1) the University of Houston:

18 (A) \$165 million for health and biomedical
19 sciences center 2; and

20 (B) \$91,350,000 for an academic building in Sugar
21 Land, Texas;

22 (2) the University of Houston--Clear Lake:

23 (A) \$120 million for a science, technology,
24 engineering, and mathematics and classroom building; and

25 (B) \$34.2 million for a health sciences and
26 classroom building;

27 (3) the University of Houston--Downtown, \$108.7

1 million for a science and technology building; and

2 (4) the University of Houston--Victoria, \$166 million
3 for academic campus expansion and land acquisition.

4 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
5 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
6 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of Houston
7 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
8 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
9 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
10 bonds, are outstanding.

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

17 Sec. 55.1784. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
18 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
19 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University
20 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
21 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
22 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
23 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
24 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
25 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
26 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
27 as follows:

1 (1) Lamar University, \$72 million for a science and
2 technology building;

3 (2) Lamar State College--Orange, \$12.5 million for a
4 multipurpose education building;

5 (3) Lamar State College--Port Arthur, \$9.6 million for
6 technology building expansion;

7 (4) Lamar Institute of Technology:

8 (A) \$12.5 million for repair and renovation of
9 the technical arts buildings; and

10 (B) \$12.1 million for a student services learning
11 support center;

12 (5) Texas State University:

13 (A) \$67.5 million for a health professions
14 building in Round Rock, Texas; and

15 (B) \$107 million for an engineering and science
16 building;

17 (6) Sam Houston State University, \$60 million for a
18 biology laboratory building; and

19 (7) Sul Ross State University:

20 (A) \$7.8 million for renovation and
21 modernization of educational facilities and infrastructure; and

22 (B) \$8,452,000 for the Briscoe Administration
23 Building renovation.

24 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
25 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
26 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas State University
27 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge

1 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
2 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
3 bonds, are outstanding.

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

10 Sec. 55.1785. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
11 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
12 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas
13 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
14 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
15 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
16 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
17 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
18 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
19 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
20 as follows:

21 (1) the University of North Texas System, \$56 million
22 for College of Law building renovations;

23 (2) the University of North Texas:

24 (A) \$82.8 million for a college of visual arts
25 and design facility; and

26 (B) \$88.2 million for a science and technology
27 research building;

1 (3) the University of North Texas at Dallas, \$70
2 million for a student learning and success center; and

3 (4) the University of North Texas Health Science
4 Center at Fort Worth, \$96.8 million for an interdisciplinary
5 research building.

6 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
7 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
8 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of North Texas
9 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
10 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
11 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
12 bonds, are outstanding.

13 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
14 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
15 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the University
16 of North Texas System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
17 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
18 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

19 Sec. 55.1786. TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY. (a) In addition
20 to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the board of
21 regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire, purchase,
22 construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property and
23 facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for an
24 experiential learning and training building, to be financed through
25 the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to
26 exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$37,997,000.

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 Texas Woman's University, including student tuition charges. The
3 amount 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 Sec. 55.1787. MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
7 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
8 subchapter, the board of regents of Midwestern State University may
9 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
10 property and facilities, including roads and related
11 infrastructure, for academic expansion and revitalization at
12 Midwestern State University, to be financed through the issuance of
13 bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
14 aggregate principal amount of \$73 million.

15 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
16 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
17 Midwestern State University, including student tuition charges.
18 The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced
19 or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
20 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

21 Sec. 55.1788. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. (a) In
22 addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
23 board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State University may acquire,
24 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
25 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for a
26 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research
27 building at Stephen F. Austin State University, to be financed

1 through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter,
2 not to exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$58 million.

3 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
4 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
5 Stephen F. Austin State University, including student tuition
6 charges. The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not
7 be reduced or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is
8 made, or bonds issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

9 Sec. 55.1789. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
10 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
11 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
12 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
13 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
14 related infrastructure, for projects 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 for the following institutions, not to exceed the
18 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
19 as follows:

20 (1) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center:

21 (A) \$75,330,000 for Lubbock education, research,
22 and technology facilities;

23 (B) \$17,820,000 for the Permian Basin academic
24 facility in Odessa, Texas; and

25 (C) \$6,350,000 for the Amarillo Panhandle
26 clinical/hospital simulation center in Amarillo, Texas;

27 (2) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El

1 Paso:

2 (A) \$84,960,000 for the El Paso Medical Science
3 Building II; and

4 (B) \$30,960,000 for the El Paso Clinical Science
5 Building;

6 (3) Texas Tech University:

7 (A) \$87,930,000 for Experimental Science
8 Building II; and

9 (B) \$60,840,000 for College of Engineering
10 expansion and renovation; and

11 (4) Angelo State University, \$24,030,000 for a College
12 of Health and Human Services building.

13 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
14 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
15 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas Tech University
16 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
17 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
18 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
19 bonds, are outstanding.

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

26 Sec. 55.17891. TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
27 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this

1 subchapter, the board of regents of Texas Southern University may
2 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
3 property and facilities, including roads and related
4 infrastructure, for the Robert J. Terry Library at Texas Southern
5 University, to be financed through the issuance of bonds in
6 accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the aggregate
7 principal amount of \$70,250,000.

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

14 Sec. 55.17892. TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM.

15 (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter,
16 the board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may
17 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
18 property and facilities, including roads and related
19 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
20 bonds in accordance with this subchapter for the following
21 institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal
22 amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

23 (1) Texas State Technical College--Harlingen,
24 \$3,750,000 for engineering center expansion and renovation;

25 (2) Texas State Technical College--Marshall, \$13.8
26 million for the North Texas technology building;

27 (3) Texas State Technical College--Waco, \$14,950,000

1 for Fort Bend Technical Center Building Two; and

2 (4) Texas State Technical College--West Texas, \$12
3 million for the Abilene Industrial Technology Center.

4 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of those
5 bonds all or any part of the revenue funds of an institution,
6 branch, or entity of the Texas State Technical College System,
7 including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge made
8 under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
9 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
10 bonds, are outstanding.

11 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
12 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
13 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State
14 Technical College System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
15 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
16 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

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

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.