

By: West

S.B. No. 2247

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 55.1791, 55.1792, 55.1793, 55.1794, 55.1795, 55.1796, 55.1797, 55.1798, 55.1799, and 55.17992 to read as follows:

Sec. 55.1791. 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, \$60 million for construction of an engineering classroom and research building;

(2) Tarleton State University, \$72 million for construction of an agricultural and natural resources building;

(3) Texas A&M University, \$75 million for construction of an instructional laboratory and innovative learning facility;

- 1 (4) Texas A&M University--Central Texas, \$25 million
2 for construction of a central utility plant;
- 3 (5) Texas A&M University--Commerce, \$49.5 million for
4 construction of an agriculture multipurpose education and training
5 center;
- 6 (6) Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, \$58.5
7 million for construction of an arts and media building;
- 8 (7) Texas A&M University at Galveston, \$58,349,500 for
9 construction of an immersive scholarship and learning environment
10 building, a central plant, and campus infrastructure;
- 11 (8) Texas A&M International University, \$9 million for
12 renovation of and additions to the fine and performing arts
13 building;
- 14 (9) Texas A&M University--Kingsville, \$65 million for
15 construction of a STEM and health professions workforce development
16 complex;
- 17 (10) Texas A&M University--San Antonio, \$53 million
18 for construction of an academic and library building;
- 19 (11) Texas A&M University--Texarkana, \$46 million for
20 construction of a business, engineering, and technology building;
- 21 (12) West Texas A&M University, \$28.5 million for
22 capital improvements to address life and fire safety issues; and
- 23 (13) The Texas A&M University System Health Science
24 Center, \$100 million for a joint project with The University of
25 Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and The University of Texas
26 Health Science Center at Houston for construction of a biomedical
27 research facility.

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

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

14 Sec. 55.1792. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
15 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
16 subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas System
17 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
18 equip 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 and in accordance with a
21 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
22 following institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate
23 principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

24 (1) The University of Texas at Arlington, \$60.8
25 million for construction of a social work and college of nursing
26 academic building;

27 (2) The University of Texas at Austin, \$100 million

- 1 for restoration of the J. T. Patterson Labs building;
2 (3) The University of Texas at Dallas, \$60 million for
3 a joint project with The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
4 Center at Dallas for construction of a transitional biomedical
5 engineering and science building;
6 (4) The University of Texas at El Paso, \$100 million
7 for construction of an advanced teaching and learning complex;
8 (5) The University of Texas of the Permian Basin, \$40
9 million for improvement and renovation of the Mesa building;
10 (6) The University of Texas--Rio Grande Valley, \$70
11 million for construction of a health affairs building;
12 (7) The University of Texas at San Antonio, \$100
13 million for construction of a college of business building;
14 (8) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$50 million for
15 construction of a college of nursing and health science building;
16 (9) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
17 Houston, \$100 million for a joint project with The Texas A&M
18 University System Health Science Center and The University of Texas
19 M. D. Anderson Cancer Center for construction of a biomedical
20 research facility;
21 (10) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
22 San Antonio, \$82 million for construction of the Glenn Biggs
23 Institute for Alzheimer's & Neurodegenerative Diseases building;
24 (11) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
25 Tyler, \$18,521,432 for improvement and renovation of a biomedical
26 research building;
27 (12) The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer

1 Center, \$100 million for a joint project with The Texas A&M
2 University System Health Science Center and The University of Texas
3 Health Science Center at Houston for construction of a biomedical
4 research facility;

5 (13) The University of Texas Medical Branch at
6 Galveston, \$100 million for construction of an education and
7 clinical multiuse building; and

8 (14) The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
9 Center at Dallas, \$60 million for a joint project with The
10 University of Texas at Dallas for construction of a transitional
11 biomedical engineering and science building.

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

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

25 Sec. 55.1793. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
26 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
27 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston

1 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
2 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
3 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
4 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
5 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
6 the board for the following entity and institutions, not to exceed
7 the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects
8 specified, as follows:

9 (1) the University of Houston System, \$75 million for
10 the repair and renovation of the campus located in Katy, Texas;

11 (2) the University of Houston, \$60 million for
12 construction of a law center building;

13 (3) the University of Houston--Clear Lake, \$56 million
14 for Phase II of the STEM and classroom building construction;

15 (4) the University of Houston--Downtown, \$100 million
16 for construction of an arts, sciences, engineering, and
17 entrepreneurship center; and

18 (5) the University of Houston--Victoria, \$74.7
19 million for campus expansion.

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 Houston
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 Houston 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. 55.1794. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
7 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
8 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University
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) Lamar University, \$45 million for construction of
18 a digital learning center;

19 (2) Lamar State College--Orange, \$32 million for
20 construction of an academic building;

21 (3) Lamar State College--Port Arthur, \$20 million for
22 construction of an allied health building;

23 (4) Lamar Institute of Technology, \$20 million for
24 construction of a workforce training center;

25 (5) Sam Houston State University, \$70 million for
26 construction of an allied health building;

27 (6) Sul Ross State University, \$25.5 million for

1 expansion of the fine arts facility;

2 (7) Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College, \$20
3 million for construction of an education center located in Eagle
4 Pass, Texas; and

5 (8) Texas State University, \$100 million for
6 construction of a STEM classroom building located in San Marcos,
7 Texas.

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 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas State University
11 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
12 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
13 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
14 bonds, are outstanding.

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

21 Sec. 55.1795. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
22 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
23 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas
24 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
25 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
26 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
27 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in

1 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
2 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
3 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
4 as follows:

5 (1) the University of North Texas, \$100 million for
6 construction of a science and technology research building;

7 (2) the University of North Texas at Dallas, \$92
8 million for construction of a STEM building; and

9 (3) the University of North Texas Health Science
10 Center at Fort Worth, \$100 million for construction of an academic
11 building.

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

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

25 Sec. 55.1796. TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL BONDS.

26 (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter,
27 the board of regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire,

1 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
2 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for a
3 health sciences center, to be financed through the issuance of
4 bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
5 aggregate principal amount of \$100 million.

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 Texas Woman's University, including student tuition charges. The
9 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
10 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
11 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

12 Sec. 55.1797. MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
13 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
14 subchapter, the board of regents of Midwestern State University may
15 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
16 property and facilities, including roads and related
17 infrastructure, for infrastructure upgrades, to be financed
18 through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter,
19 not to exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$10 million.

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 Midwestern State University, including student tuition charges.
23 The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced
24 or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
25 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

26 Sec. 55.1798. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY;
27 ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted

1 by this subchapter, the board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State
2 University may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
3 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
4 related infrastructure, for a natural resources science and
5 innovations laboratory, to be financed through the issuance of
6 bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
7 aggregate principal amount of \$48 million.

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 Stephen F. Austin State University, including student tuition
11 charges. The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not
12 be reduced or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is
13 made, or bonds issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

14 Sec. 55.1799. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
15 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
16 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
17 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
18 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
19 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
20 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
21 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
22 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
23 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
24 as follows:

25 (1) Angelo State University, \$22.5 million for
26 construction of a college of arts and humanities building;

27 (2) Texas Tech University, \$100 million for

1 construction of a science and engineering complex;

2 (3) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center,
3 \$34,650,000 for expansion of the academic and clinic building
4 located in Amarillo, Texas; and

5 (4) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El
6 Paso, \$92,349,000 for construction of a dental school building.

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

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

20 Sec. 55.17992. TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM. (a)
21 In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
22 board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may
23 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
24 property and facilities, including roads and related
25 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
26 bonds in accordance with this subchapter for the following entity
27 and institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal

1 amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

2 (1) Texas State Technical College System, \$16.5
3 million for Phase II of the industrial technology center located in
4 Williamson County;

5 (2) Texas State Technical College--Fort Bend,
6 \$30,377,000 for Phase III of the campus construction;

7 (3) Texas State Technical College--Harlingen, \$20
8 million for construction of an industrial technology center;

9 (4) Texas State Technical College--Marshall,
10 \$8,572,000 for consolidation construction for a single campus;

11 (5) Texas State Technical College--North Texas,
12 \$10,938,000 for Phase II of the new campus construction;

13 (6) Texas State Technical College--Waco, \$20 million
14 for construction of a computer technology center; and

15 (7) Texas State Technical College--West Texas,
16 \$28,177,000 for Phase II of the Abilene campus construction.

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

24 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
25 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
26 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State
27 Technical College System to ensure the most equitable and efficient

1 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
2 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

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

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.