

By: Creighton

S.B. No. 52

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 55.17991 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) Texas A&M University--Commerce, \$50 million for infrastructure upgrades to address accessibility for persons with disabilities and health and safety issues;

(2) Texas A&M International University, \$80 million for construction of health science education and research centers;

(3) Texas A&M University--Kingsville, \$60 million to

1 address deferred maintenance;

2 (4) Texas A&M University--Texarkana, \$46 million for
3 construction of a business, engineering, and technology building;
4 and

5 (5) West Texas A&M University, \$65,750,000 for
6 infrastructure upgrades to address health and safety issues and
7 renovation of an education building.

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 A&M 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 A&M
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. 55.1792. THE UNIVERSITY OF 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 Texas System
24 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
25 equip property and facilities, including roads and related
26 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
27 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a

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

4 (1) The University of Texas at Arlington, \$134 million
5 for renovation of the Life Science Building;

6 (2) The University of Texas at El Paso, \$100 million
7 for construction of an advanced teaching and learning complex; and

8 (3) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$76 million for
9 construction of a sciences building.

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

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

23 Sec. 55.1793. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
24 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
25 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
26 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
27 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and

1 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
2 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
3 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
4 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
5 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
6 as follows:

7 (1) the University of Houston System, \$128 million for
8 construction of a medical research facility;

9 (2) the University of Houston--Clear Lake, \$60 million
10 for renovation of the Bayou Building, the Delta Building, and the
11 Student Services and Classroom Building; and

12 (3) the University of Houston--Victoria, \$21,280,469
13 for renovation of the Northwest Building and North Building.

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

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

27 Sec. 55.1794. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL

1 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
2 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University
3 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
4 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
5 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
6 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
7 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
8 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
9 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
10 as follows:

11 (1) Lamar State College--Orange, \$42 million for
12 construction of an academic building to house general academic
13 instruction and information technology services;

14 (2) Lamar Institute of Technology, \$48 million for
15 construction of a facility for workforce and allied health
16 programs;

17 (3) Lamar University, \$75 million for renovation of a
18 library; and

19 (4) Sam Houston State University, \$70 million for
20 construction of an allied health building located in Conroe, Texas.

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

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

7 Sec. 55.1795. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
8 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
9 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas
10 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
11 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
12 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
13 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
14 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
15 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
16 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
17 as follows:

18 (1) the University of North Texas at Dallas, \$163
19 million for construction of a science building; and

20 (2) the University of North Texas Health Science
21 Center at Fort Worth, \$84 million for campus space optimization and
22 realignment.

23 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
24 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
25 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of North Texas
26 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
27 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the

1 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
2 bonds, are outstanding.

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

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

10 (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter,
11 the board of regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire,
12 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
13 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for
14 renovation and repurposing of Brackenridge Hall health sciences
15 center, to be financed through the issuance of bonds in accordance
16 with this subchapter, not to exceed the aggregate principal amount
17 of \$49 million.

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

24 Sec. 55.1797. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY;
25 ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted
26 by this subchapter, the board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State
27 University may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,

1 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
2 related infrastructure, for construction of an interdisciplinary
3 and applied sciences building, to be financed through the issuance
4 of bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
5 aggregate principal amount of \$53 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 Stephen F. Austin State University, including student tuition
9 charges. The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not
10 be reduced or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is
11 made, or bonds issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

12 Sec. 55.1798. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
13 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
14 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
15 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
16 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
17 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
18 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
19 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
20 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
21 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
22 as follows:

23 (1) Texas Tech University:

24 (A) \$72 million for renovations to address
25 deferred maintenance for campus buildings; and

26 (B) \$8 million for renovations and construction
27 at the Texas Tech University Center at Junction;

1 (2) Angelo State University, \$36 million for
2 maintenance and renovation of a central plant; and

3 (3) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, \$90
4 million for maintenance and renovation of an existing facility.

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

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

18 Sec. 55.1799. TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL BONDS.

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

26 (1) \$22,800,000 for renovation of the Nabrit Building;

27 (2) \$59 million for renovation of the Lanier East

1 Building;

2 (3) \$2,400,000 for upgrades to signage and wayfinding;

3 (4) \$40 million for maintenance and renovation of a
4 facility; and

5 (5) \$30 million for construction of a health and
6 wellness center.

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

13 Sec. 55.17991. TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM. (a)
14 In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
15 board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may
16 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
17 property and facilities, including roads and related
18 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
19 bonds in accordance with this subchapter for the following entity
20 and institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal
21 amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

22 (1) Texas State Technical College System, \$33,300,000
23 for the Williamson County campus site phase II;

24 (2) Texas State Technical College--Fort Bend,
25 \$41,800,000 for construction of phase II of the campus site;

26 (3) Texas State Technical College--Harlingen,
27 \$37,800,000 for construction of an industrial technology

1 performance learning center;

2 (4) Texas State Technical College--Marshall, \$15
3 million for construction of an industrial technology performance
4 learning center;

5 (5) Texas State Technical College--North Texas, \$13.5
6 million for construction of phase II of the campus site;

7 (6) Texas State Technical College--West Texas, \$13.5
8 million for construction of phase II of the campus site located in
9 Abilene, Texas; and

10 (7) Texas State Technical College--Waco, \$53,600,000
11 for construction of an industrial technology performance learning
12 center.

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 State Technical
16 College System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a
17 pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated
18 while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to
19 refund those 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 State
23 Technical College 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 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect any authority or
27 restriction regarding the activities that a public institution of

1 higher education may conduct in connection with a facility financed
2 by bonds authorized by this Act.

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