

By: Schwertner

S.B. No. 1468

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the authority of the board of regents of the Texas A&M
3 University System to construct, acquire, improve, extend, and equip
4 utility systems located on university system property.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 85.24, Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 85.24. UTILITIES. (a) The board [~~from time to time~~]
9 may improve and equip existing [~~central~~] power plants and may
10 construct, acquire, improve, and equip steam plants and additions
11 to steam plants. For the purposes of this subsection, [~~them, and~~]
12 the board may acquire property [~~land for these purposes~~] for the
13 institutions under its control[~~7~~] when the total cost, type of
14 construction, capacity, and plans and specifications have been
15 approved by the board. As used in this subsection, "steam plants"
16 does not include electrical generating facilities, but "[~~central~~]
17 power plants" does include electrical generating facilities.

18 (b) The board [~~from time to time~~] may construct, extend, and
19 improve the water systems and [~~7~~] sewer systems[~~7 or both~~] for [~~any~~
20 ~~or~~] all institutions under its control[~~7~~] when the total cost, type
21 of construction, capacity, and plans and specifications have been
22 approved by the board.

23 (c) The board may provide [~~furnish~~] water, sewer, steam,
24 power, electricity, or any combination [~~or all~~] of those services

1 from the [~~power and steam plant or~~] plants and other facilities
2 located at each institution to [~~any or~~] all [~~dormitories, kitchens~~
3 ~~and dining halls, hospitals, student activity buildings,~~
4 ~~gymnasiums, athletic buildings and stadiums, the dormitory for~~
5 ~~help, laundry, and other~~] buildings or facilities that [~~may~~] have
6 been or may be constructed at each institution, and may determine
7 the amount to be charged as a part of the maintenance and operation
8 expense of those buildings or facilities for the service or
9 services. The board may allocate the cost of providing
10 [~~furnishing~~] the services to revenue-producing buildings and
11 facilities and to other buildings and facilities at the
12 institutions. The board may pledge the net revenues from the
13 amounts thus received for the services to pay the principal of and
14 interest on, and to create and maintain the reserve for, the
15 negotiable revenue bonds issued for the purpose of constructing,
16 acquiring, improving, extending, or equipping the power and steam
17 plants, or additions thereto, or other facilities, and may secure
18 the bonds additionally by pledging rentals, rates, charges, and
19 fees for the use or availability of all or any property, buildings,
20 structures, activities, operations, or facilities, of any nature,
21 which may be fixed and collected from all or any designated part of
22 the students enrolled in the institution or institutions or from
23 others in the amounts and in the manner determined and provided by
24 the board in the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds.

25 (d) In addition to the authority granted to the board under
26 Subsections (a) and (b), the board may construct and acquire power
27 and steam plants, and additions to power and steam plants, located

1 on university system property in Brazos County and may acquire
2 water systems and sewer systems located on university system
3 property in Brazos County.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.