

By: Watson

S. B. No. 245

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund
3 capital projects at public institutions of higher education.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is
6 amended by adding Sections 55.1781, 55.1782, 55.1783, 55.1784,
7 55.1785, 55.1786, 55.1787, 55.1788, 55.1789, 55.17891, and
8 55.17892 to read as follows:

24 (3) Texas A&M University--Kingsville, \$77,111.899 for

1 construction of a music building;
2 (4) Texas A&M University--Texarkana, \$40,000,000 for
3 construction of an academic and student health sciences building;
4 (5) West Texas A&M University:
5 (A) \$20,000,000 for renovation of the Amarillo
6 Center; and
7 (B) \$53,000,000 for construction of an
8 agricultural sciences complex;
9 (6) The Texas A&M University System Health Science
10 Center:
11 (A) \$100,000,000 for construction of a
12 multidisciplinary research and education facility in Bryan, Texas;
13 and
14 (B) \$119,371,824 for construction of a dental
15 clinic facility at the Baylor College of Dentistry;
16 (7) Texas A&M International University, \$60,625,000
17 for construction of an academic and laboratory learning center;
18 (8) Prairie View A&M University, \$15,000,000 for
19 construction of a fabrication center;
20 (9) Tarleton State University:
21 (A) \$85,600,000 for construction of an applied
22 sciences building; and
23 (B) \$99,600,000 for construction of a southwest
24 metroplex building for the campus in Midlothian;
25 (10) Texas A&M University, \$95,000,000 for
26 construction of a biocontainment research facility;
27 (11) Texas A&M University at Galveston, \$134,000,000

1 for construction of an academic building;
2 (12) Texas A&M University--Central Texas, \$40,000,000
3 for construction of a multipurpose building;
4 (13) Texas A&M University--San Antonio, \$70,000,000
5 for construction of a science and technology building; and
6 (14) the Texas Engineering Experiment Station,
7 \$65,000,000 for construction of a center for infrastructure
8 renewal.

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

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

22 (d) The expanded capacity at system institutions
23 attributable to the authorization provided for projects under
24 Subsection (a) supports the provision of dual credit or career and
25 technology education programs in furtherance of the goals of
26 Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular
27 Session, 2013.

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

11 (1) The University of Texas at Austin, \$125,000,000
12 for renovation of Robert A. Welch Hall;

13 (2) The University of Texas--Rio Grande Valley:
14 (A) \$50,600,000 for construction of a
15 multipurpose academic center at the campus in Brownsville; and
16 (B) \$50,000,000 for construction of an
17 interdisciplinary engineering and academic studies building at the
18 campus in Edinburg;

19 (3) The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
20 Center at Dallas, \$102,000,000 for the construction and renovation
21 of a vivarium;

22 (4) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
23 San Antonio, \$93,800,000 for the renovation of a medical and dental
24 education building;

25 (5) The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer
26 Center, \$361,000,000 for construction of the Sheikh Zayed Bin
27 Sultan Al Nahyan Building for Personalized Cancer Care;

1 (6) The University of Texas Medical Branch at
2 Galveston, \$90,400,000 for construction of a health education
3 center;

4 (7) The University of Texas at Arlington, \$244,000,000
5 for construction of a science and engineering innovation and
6 research building;

7 (8) The University of Texas at Dallas, \$110,000,000
8 for construction of an engineering building;

9 (9) The University of Texas at El Paso, \$117,000,000
10 for construction of an interdisciplinary research facility;

11 (10) The University of Texas at San Antonio,
12 \$115,000,000 for construction of an instructional science and
13 engineering building;

14 (11) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$76,000,000 for
15 construction of a STEM building;

16 (12) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
17 Houston, \$117,000,000 for the renovation and modernization of a
18 medical school building;

19 (13) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
20 Tyler, \$18,500,000 for the renovation of a facility for physician
21 residents training; and

22 (14) The University of Texas of the Permian Basin,
23 \$60,000,000 for construction of an engineering building.

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 University of Texas
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 University
7 of Texas 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 (d) The expanded capacity at system institutions
11 attributable to the authorization provided for projects under
12 Subsection (a) supports the provision of dual credit or career and
13 technology education programs in furtherance of the goals of
14 Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular
15 Session, 2013.

16 Sec. 55.1783. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
17 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
18 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
19 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
20 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
21 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
22 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
23 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
24 the board for the following institutions or entities, not to exceed
25 the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects
26 specified, as follows:

27 (1) the University of Houston:

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

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 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of Houston
21 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
22 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
23 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
24 bonds, are outstanding.

25 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
26 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
27 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the University

1 of Houston System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
2 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
3 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

4 (d) The expanded capacity at system institutions
5 attributable to the authorization provided for projects under
6 Subsection (a) supports the provision of dual credit or career and
7 technology education programs in furtherance of the goals of
8 Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular
9 Session, 2013.

10 Sec. 55.1784. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
11 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
12 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University
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) Lamar University, \$81,000,000 for construction of
22 a science and technology building;

23 (2) Lamar State College--Orange, \$12,500,000 for
24 construction of a multipurpose education building;

25 (3) Lamar State College--Port Arthur, \$10,100,000 for
26 expansion of technology program facilities;

27 (4) Lamar Institute of Technology, \$16,500,000 for

1 renovation of the technical arts buildings;

2 (5) Texas State University:

3 (A) \$107,000,000 for construction of an
4 engineering and sciences building; and

5 (B) \$67,500,000 for construction of a medical
6 education and research building in Round Rock, Texas;

7 (6) Sam Houston State University, \$60,000,000 for
8 construction of a biology laboratory building; and

9 (7) Sul Ross State University, \$7,800,000 for
10 renovation and modernization of educational and related facilities
11 and infrastructure.

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 Texas State University
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 Texas State
22 University 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 (d) The expanded capacity at system institutions
26 attributable to the authorization provided for projects under
27 Subsection (a) supports the provision of dual credit or career and

1 technology education programs in furtherance of the goals of
2 Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular
3 Session, 2013.

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

15 (1) the University of North Texas System, \$101,000,000
16 for renovation of college of law buildings;

17 (2) the University of North Texas, \$92,000,000 for
18 construction and renovation of college of visual arts and design
19 facilities;

20 (3) the University of North Texas at Dallas,
21 \$70,000,000 for construction of a student learning and success
22 center; and

23 (4) the University of North Texas Health Science
24 Center at Fort Worth, \$121,000,000 for construction of an
25 interdisciplinary research building.

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

1 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of North Texas
2 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
3 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
4 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
5 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 University
9 of North Texas 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) The expanded capacity at system institutions
13 attributable to the authorization provided for projects under
14 Subsection (a) supports the provision of dual credit or career and
15 technology education programs in furtherance of the goals of
16 Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular
17 Session, 2013.

18 Sec. 55.1786. TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY. (a) In addition to
19 the other authority granted by this subchapter, the board of
20 regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire, purchase,
21 construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property and
22 facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for a
23 science and technology learning center, to be financed through the
24 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed
25 the aggregate principal amount of \$51,347,200.

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

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

5 (c) The expanded capacity at the university attributable to
6 the authorization provided under Subsection (a) supports the
7 provision of dual credit or career and technology education
8 programs in furtherance of the goals of Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts
9 of the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

10 Sec. 55.1787. MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
11 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
12 subchapter, the board of regents of Midwestern State University may
13 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
14 property and facilities, including roads and related
15 infrastructure, for the Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human
16 Services, to be financed through the issuance of bonds in
17 accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the aggregate
18 principal amount of \$61,000,000.

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

25 (c) The expanded capacity at the university attributable to
26 the authorization provided under Subsection (a) supports the
27 provision of dual credit or career and technology education

1 programs in furtherance of the goals of Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts
2 of the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

3 Sec. 55.1788. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY. (a) In
4 addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
5 board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State University may acquire,
6 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
7 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for a
8 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research
9 building at Stephen F. Austin State University, to be financed
10 through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter,
11 not to exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$58,000,000.

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

18 (c) The expanded capacity at the university attributable to
19 the authorization provided under Subsection (a) supports the
20 provision of dual credit or career and technology education
21 programs in furtherance of the goals of Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts
22 of the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

23 Sec. 55.1789. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
24 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
25 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
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) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center:

8 (A) \$83,700,000 for renovation and expansion of
9 Lubbock education, research, and technology facilities;
10 (B) \$19,800,000 for construction of the Permian
11 Basin academic facility; and

12 (C) \$9,750,000 for construction of the Amarillo
13 Panhandle Clinical/Hospital Simulation;

14 (2) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El
15 Paso, \$94,400,000 for construction of the El Paso Medical Science
16 Building II;

17 (3) Texas Tech University, \$97,700,000 for
18 construction of an experimental sciences building; and

19 (4) Angelo State University, \$26,700,000 for
20 construction of a College of Health and Human Services building.

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 Tech 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 Tech
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 (d) The expanded capacity at system institutions
8 attributable to the authorization provided for projects under
9 Subsection (a) supports the provision of dual credit or career and
10 technology education programs in furtherance of the goals of
11 Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular
12 Session, 2013.

13 Sec. 55.17891. TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
14 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
15 subchapter, the board of regents of Texas Southern University may
16 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
17 property and facilities, including roads and related
18 infrastructure, for the Robert J. Terry Library at Texas Southern
19 University, to be financed through the issuance of bonds in
20 accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the aggregate
21 principal amount of \$70,247,859.

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

1 (c) The expanded capacity at the university attributable to
2 the authorization provided under Subsection (a) supports the
3 provision of dual credit or career and technology education
4 programs in furtherance of the goals of Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts
5 of the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

6 Sec. 55.17892. TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM. (a) In
7 addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
8 board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may
9 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
10 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 for the following
13 institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal
14 amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

15 (1) Texas State Technical College--West Texas,
16 \$12,000,000 for construction of an industrial technology center in
17 Abilene, Texas;

18 (2) Texas State Technical College--Harlingen,
19 \$3,750,000 for Phase II of the Engineering Technology Center
20 renovation;

21 (3) Texas State Technical College--Marshall,
22 \$31,350,440 for construction of a North Texas extension center; and

23 (4) Texas State Technical College--Waco, \$14,950,000
24 for construction of the Fort Bend Industrial Technology Center.

25 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of those
26 bonds all or any part of the revenue funds of an institution,
27 branch, or entity of the Texas State Technical College System,

1 including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge made
2 under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
3 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
4 bonds, are outstanding.

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

11 (d) The expanded capacity at system institutions
12 attributable to the authorization provided for projects under
13 Subsection (a) supports the provision of dual credit or career and
14 technology education programs in furtherance of the goals of
15 Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular
16 Session, 2013.

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 September 1, 2015.