

SUBJECT: Making supplemental appropriations and reductions

COMMITTEE: Appropriations — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 23 ayes — Bonnen, M. González, Allison, Bell, Gates, Gervin-Hawkins, Howard, Isaac, Jetton, Martinez, Morrison, Orr, Ortega, Rose, Spiller, Stucky, Tepper, Thimesch, E. Thompson, Toth, VanDeaver, Walle, Wu

3 nays — Bryant, Jarvis Johnson, Martinez Fischer

1 absent — DeAyala

SENATE VOTE: On final passage (March 15, 2023) — 30-0

WITNESSES: For — Leo Collas, AFSCME; Richard Jankovsky III, DPS Officers Association; Brandon Young, Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Cyrus Reed, Lone Star Chapter Sierra Club; Carla James, Retired State Employees Association; Mark Stubbs, Texas Electric Cooperatives; Ray Hymel and Ann Bishop, Texas Public Employees Association (TPEA); Timothy Lee, Texas Retired Teachers Association (*Registered, but did not testify*); Jason Ryan, CenterPoint Energy; Adam Haynes, Conference of Urban Counties; Rick Thompson, County Judges and Commissioners Association; Rebekah Chenelle, Dallas County Commissioners Court; Christine Yanas, Methodist Healthcare Ministries; Bill Hamilton, Retired State Employees Association; Rahul Sreenivasan, Texas 2036; Julie Wheeler, Travis County Commissioners Court)

Against — Katie Fine, Avenue CDC; Daniel Elkin, Come Dream. Come Build; Bethany Carson and Alicia Torres, Grassroots Leadership; Eric Samuels, Texas Homeless Network; Ben Martin, Texas Housers

On — Aaron Henricksen and Stewart Shallow, Legislative Budget Board; Tanya Lavelle, Disability Rights Texas; Rodney Rueter, Lutheran Sunset Ministries; Sandra Batton and Doug Svien, Providers Alliance for Community Services of Texas; Kevin Warren, Texas Health Care Association; Daniel Sanchez Pinol, Texas Public Policy Foundation;

Ashley Leenerts, Texas Right To Life; Christy Rome, Texas School Coalition; Janet Cook and Tyler Sheldon, Texas State Employees Union; Meera Riner, Independent Coalition of Nursing Home Providers (*Registered, but did not testify*: Alyse Meyer, Leading Age Texas; Rebecca Galinsky, Protect TX Fragile Kids; Andrew Roth, Teacher Retirement System of Texas; Mike Meyer, Texas Education Agency; Preston Streufert, Texas Juvenile Justice Department; and Sergio Rey, Texas Water Development Board)

DIGEST:

CSSB 30 would make additional appropriations and reductions to certain fiscal 2022-23 appropriations. CSSB 30 also would provide direction for use and adjustment authority for certain fiscal 2022-23 appropriations.

The bill would take immediate effect. In accordance with Texas Constitution Article 7, Sec. 18(i), certain appropriations to higher education institutions would take effect only if the bill passed by a two-thirds recorded vote of each house.

CSSB 30 would define the ARPA fund as money received by the state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

General Government - Art. 1

Employees Retirement System. CSSB 30 would make two appropriations to the Employees Retirement System to address unfunded liabilities. The bill would appropriate \$165.6 million in general revenue to implement provisions of Chapter 940 (S.B. 321), Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, which requires the ERS Retirement Program's unfunded actuarial liabilities to be amortized by August 31, 2054. The bill would appropriate an additional \$1 billion in general revenue to further amortize the program's unfunded liabilities.

Opioid abatement. The bill would appropriate about \$26.8 million in general revenue to the comptroller of public accounts for the opioid abatement trust

fund. Monies would come from the statewide opioid settlement agreement *State of Texas v. McKinsey & Company, Inc.*, United States, No. D-1-GN-21-000551 (98th Dist. Ct., Travis County, Tex., Feb. 4, 2021). In accordance with Chapter 781 (S.B. 1827), Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, this appropriation would represent 85 percent of the total settlement monies received by the state.

Texas Guaranteed Tuition Plan. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$243.8 million in general revenue to pay contract obligations and program expenses for the Guaranteed Tuition Plan/Texas Tomorrow Fund. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Dedicated deferred maintenance. The bill would require the transfer of \$400 million in general revenue funds to a deferred maintenance account to address future maintenance of state buildings as directed by the Legislature.

Library and Archives Commission facility. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$210.3 million in general revenue funds to the Texas Facilities Commission for construction of a new facility for the Library and Archives Commission. The new facility would be used for records and archive storage. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill also would allow the commission to use \$210 million of its capital budget authority during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Texas State History Museum. The bill would appropriate about \$3 million from general revenue to the State Preservation Board (SPB) to replace the roof and boiler system at the Texas State History Museum. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill also would allow the SPB to use about \$3 million of its capital budget authority during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Texas Historical Commission. The bill would make several appropriations from general revenue funds to the Texas Historical Commission for:

- site restoration, maintenance, and improvements at the San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Site, Battleship Texas site, Monument Hill State Historic Site, Magoffin Home State Historic Site, Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site, Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site, and Fort Velasco Historical Site;
- the Courthouse Grant Program, which would include grants for restorations and emergency planning projects;
- updates and modifications to the George H.W. Bush Gallery and exhibits at the National Museum of the Pacific War;
- land acquisition to restore the boundaries of the Levi Jordan Historic Site and other improvements;
- reprinting of certain state travel guides; and
- maintenance and repairs at the commission's office complex.

Appropriations would be made for the two-year period beginning on the bill's effective date and, where applicable, would provide corresponding capital budget authority.

Grants for victims of crime. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$120 million in general revenue funds to the Truvested Programs within the Office of the Governor for crime victims assistance grants during the two-year period beginning on the bill's effective date.

Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund. Contingent on enactment of legislation by the 88th Legislature related to the creation of the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund, the bill would appropriate \$1.5 billion in general revenue funds for deposit into the new fund.

State Preservation Board endowment fund. Contingent on enactment of legislation by the 88th Legislature related to the creation of an endowment fund for the State Preservation Board, the bill would appropriate \$200 million in general revenue funds to the new endowment fund for purposes described by the enabling legislation.

Texas Historical Commission endowment fund. Contingent on enactment of legislation by the 88th Legislature related to the creation of an endowment fund for the Texas Historical Commission, the bill would appropriate \$300

million in general revenue funds to the new endowment fund for purposes described in the enabling legislation.

Department of Information Resources. The bill would reduce by \$200 million the unencumbered appropriations from the ARPA fund and the related increase in capital budget authority provided by the 87th Legislature to the Department of Information Resources for cybersecurity projects.

Public Finance Authority. The bill would reduce by \$18.5 million the unencumbered appropriations in general revenue funds to the Public Finance Authority (PFA) for fiscal 2022-23 for bond debt service payments. The bill would further require the PFA to identify strategies and objectives out of which the reduction in appropriations should be made and the amount of the reduction for each strategy and objective.

Unobligated and unexpended funds. For varied agencies and programs in Art. 1, CSSB 30 would allow unobligated and unexpended funds remaining as of the effective date of the act to be reappropriated to the same agency and program for the same purpose as originally appropriated. Reappropriated funds could be used for the original appropriated purpose for an additional two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. Agencies and programs would include:

- Commission on State Emergency Communication: Next Generation 9-1-1 Service Fund;
- Department of Information Resources: endpoint detection and response, security operations center, and multi-factor authentication expansion;
- Facilities Commission: Capital Complex Phases 1 and 2, Permian Basin Behavioral Health Center, deferred maintenance, and flex-space building;
- Office of the Attorney General: Sexual Assault Program, legacy and system modernization;
- Pension Review Board: data migration and self-service portal;
- Secretary of State: legacy system modernization;

- State Preservation Board: State Cemetery Master Plan, Capitol and Capitol Extension, maintenance and capital improvement, and Texas State History Museum;
- Texas Historical Commission: deferred maintenance, National Museum of the Pacific War, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site, Levi Jordan State Historic Site, and Courthouse Preservation Grants; and
- Trusted Programs - Office of the Governor: victims of crime grants.

Health and Human Services - Art. 2

Medicaid shortfall. To address a budget shortfall in Medicaid client services in fiscal 2023, the bill would appropriate \$2.9 billion in general revenue funds and \$5.5 billion in federal funds to the Health and Human Services Commission. CSSB 30 also would require transfer of \$5 million of the appropriated funds to the Home and Community-Based Services adult mental health program.

State hospital capacity. CSSB 30 would appropriate about \$2.3 billion in general revenue funds to the Health and Human Services Commission to construct state hospitals and increase inpatient capacity. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill would allow the commission to use about \$2.3 billion of its capital authority for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Department of Family and Protective Services budget shortfall. The bill would appropriate \$30.8 million in general revenue funds to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and authorize the department to transfer an additional \$29 million from federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds to address a budget shortfall in fiscal 2023. The bill also would appropriate \$1.9 million in general revenue funds to pay court monitor fees, \$6.9 million in general revenue funds to pay for data center services, and would allow transfers of specified funds to support child protective program needs, adult protective services, and data center consolidation. The department's capital budget authority would be increased by \$6.9 million for fiscal 2023.

Advocacy center data collection. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$250,000 to the Department of Family and Protective Services for information technology costs related to child advocacy center data collection from state agencies for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The department's capital budget authority would be increased by \$250,000.

Federally Qualified Health Centers Incubator Program. The bill would appropriate \$40 million in general revenue funds to the Department of State Health Services for the Federally Qualified Health Centers Incubator Program. Funds could be used for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

COVID-19 shortfall. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$50 million in general revenue funds to the Department of State Health Services to close out COVID-19 response costs not reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Laboratory building repair. The bill would allow the Department of State Health Services to transfer \$5 million from the Newborn Screening Preservation Account to repair and rehabilitate the department's laboratory building. CSSB 30 also would allow the department to use \$5 million of its capital budget authority for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Dallas-Forth Worth Hospital. CSSB 30 would appropriate about \$101.9 million in general revenue funds to the Health and Human Services Commission for construction of a new state hospital in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill also would allow the commission to use \$101.9 million of its capital budget authority for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Uvalde Behavioral Health Campus. The bill would appropriate \$33.6 million in general revenue funds to the Health and Human Services

Commission for construction of a behavioral health campus in Uvalde. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. CSSB 30 also would allow the commission to use \$33.6 million of its capital budget authority for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Unobligated and unexpended funds. For varied agencies and programs in Art. 2, CSSB 30 would allow unobligated and unexpended funds remaining as of the effective date of the act to be reappropriated to the same agency and program for the same purpose as originally appropriated. Reappropriated funds could be used for the original appropriated purpose for an additional two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. Agencies and programs would include:

- Department of State Health Services: Rio Grande Valley Laboratory and department laboratory; and
- Health and Human Services Commission: General items as well as specific projects are provided such authority. General items include: cross biennia transfers for state hospital construction; oversight of certain construction projects; internet portal; technology updates; staffing needs; building needs; state hospital construction; systems, platform, technology infrastructure and other information technology projects; fiber and cabling project upgrades at state hospitals and state supported living centers; and data center consolidation. Specific projects would include:
 - Rural hospitals;
 - Texas Civil Commitment office;
 - Sunrise Canyon Hospital;
 - Motor vehicle purchases;
 - Vendor Drug Program and Pharmacy Benefits System modernization;
 - Winters Data Center consolidation;
 - Austin State Hospital;
 - San Antonio State Hospital; and
 - Dallas-Ft. Worth Hospital.

Public and Higher Education - Art. 3

School safety. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$1.6 billion in general revenue funds to the Texas Education Agency to assist school districts in implementing additional safety measures. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Information technology deferred maintenance. The bill would appropriate about \$11.3 million to the Texas Education Agency to address information technology deferred maintenance. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

School for the Blind and Visually Impaired campus upgrades. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$3.2 million in general revenue funds to the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired for campus infrastructure and security upgrades. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

School for the Blind and Visually Impaired salaries. The bill would appropriate \$936,000 in general revenue funds to the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired for staff salaries to address staffing shortfalls. The bill would allocate appropriated amounts to certain strategies and would be authorized from the effective date of the act through August 31, 2024.

School for the Deaf Master Plan Phase 3 construction. CSSB 30 would appropriate about \$56.8 million in general revenue funds to the School for the Deaf for student housing, classroom expansion, and renovation of the Adult Curriculum for Community, Employment, and Social Skills (ACCESS) program. The bill would require the School for the Deaf to transfer appropriated funding to the Texas Facilities Commission to fulfill the stated purposes. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Texas B-On-Time account balances. Under CSSB 30, all unexpended and unobligated fund balances remaining in the Texas B-On-Time account as of August 31, 2024, would be appropriated to eligible institutions based on the

formula adopted by the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) in response to Education Code, Sec. 56.0092(e). The comptroller would transfer funds to HECB for prompt distribution to eligible institutions. Texas B-On-Time loan payments received after September 1, 2024, would be appropriated to the HECB Student Loans Program.

HECB support for the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium.

CSSB 30 would allow the transfer of unobligated and unexpended funds from the ARPA account to HECB to support the operations and expansion of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium. Funds could be used to expand mental health initiatives for children, pregnant women, and women who are up to one year post partum. Funds also could be used to enhance the Child Psychiatry Access Network to improve perinatal mental health services.

HECB data security, modernization and capital budget authority. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$15 million and an additional \$5 million from general revenue funds to the HECB for data modernization, technology infrastructure, cybersecurity, and application modernization. The bill would allow HECB to use about \$17.2 million of its capital budget authority for items related to data modernization, cybersecurity, application modernization, and expenses related to the Texas OnCourse program. Funds could be used for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill also would state that HECB's capital budget authority included the authority to spend money appropriated to HECB by the state from the Governors Emergency Education Relief Fund under the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act (15 U.S.C. Section 9001 et seq.), the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021, (Div. M, Pub. L No. 116-260), or to the board from the state student loan program established under Education Code, Chapter 52.

Texas A&M Forest Service. The bill would appropriate about \$146 million in general revenue funds to the Texas A&M Forest Service to respond to previous and future natural disasters. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Texas A&M AgriLife Research: Vernon Center. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$15 million from general revenue funds to Texas A&M AgriLife Research for cleanup, replacement of lost equipment, and repair and renovation of infrastructure at the Vernon Center due to tornado damage. The appropriation would require a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Legislature to receive funding.

University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler. CSSB 30 would appropriate \$7 million in general revenue funds to The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler to double the hospital's inpatient capacity from 44 to 88 beds. The appropriation would require a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Legislature to receive funding.

Harris County Psychiatric Hospital. The bill would appropriate about \$8 million in general revenue funds to The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston for indigent inpatient care, renovation of patient areas, deferred maintenance, and other building renovation at the Harris County Psychiatric Hospital. The appropriation would require a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Legislature to receive funding.

Texas Memorial Museum. The bill would appropriate \$8 million in general revenue funds to The University of Texas at Austin for renovations to the Texas Memorial Museum. The appropriation would require a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Legislature to receive funding.

Lamar Institution disaster mitigation and resiliency. The bill would appropriate \$25.5 million in general revenue funds to certain Lamar University institutions to mitigate storm damage and make renovations. The appropriation would require a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Legislature to receive funding.

Teacher retirement benefit enhancement. Contingent on the enactment of legislation by the 88th Legislature related to the provision of a benefit enhancement for retired teachers and compliance with requirements for amortization of unfunded actuarial liabilities, CSSB 30 would appropriate

\$3.5 billion in general revenue funds to the Teacher Retirement System for a benefit enhancement.

Foundation School Program reduction. The bill would reduce unencumbered appropriations in general revenue funds to the Texas Education Agency for the Foundation School Program by \$8.2 billion. The sum-certain appropriation to the Foundation School Program for fiscal 2023 would be about \$24.5 billion.

Unobligated and unexpended funds. For varied agencies and programs in Art. 3, CSSB 30 would allow unobligated and unexpended funds remaining as of the effective date of the act to be reappropriated to the same agency and program for the same purpose as originally appropriated. Reappropriated funds could be used for the original appropriated purpose for an additional two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. Agencies and programs would include:

- Higher Education Coordinating Board: Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium and Rural Veterinarians Grant Program;
- Texas A&M University at Galveston: Maritime Infrastructure Project (this item requires a two-thirds vote in each chamber of the Legislature);
- Texas Division of Emergency Management: State Operations Center;
- Texas Education Agency: maintenance of state financial support for special education, program enhancements, and certain public school curriculum;
- Texas Tech University: institutional enhancements; and
- University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston: Texas Epidemic Public Health Institute.

Judiciary - Art. 4

Unobligated and unexpended funds. For certain agencies and programs in Art. 4, CSSB 30 would allow unobligated and unexpended funds remaining as of the effective date of the act to be reappropriated to the same agency and program for the same purpose as originally appropriated. Reappropriated

funds could be used for the original appropriated purpose for an additional two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. Agencies and programs would include:

- Comptroller of Public Accounts, Judiciary: budget shortfall in court fees;
- Office of Capital and Forensic Writs: appropriations for shortfall in court fees; and
- Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council: bond legislation, budget shortfall of court fees, and indigent legal representation.

Public Safety and Criminal Justice - Art. 5

Correctional managed care, operations, and deferred maintenance projects. Under CSSB 30, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) would receive the following appropriations: \$142 million in general revenue funds for correctional managed care; \$237 million in general revenue funds for correctional security operations, staffing adjustments, resuming services at Bradshaw State Jail, and other agency expenses; \$23.8 million in general revenue funds to address previously deferred maintenance of correctional facilities' security; and \$600,000 for an educational and vocational training pilot program to assist certain offenders in finding employment upon release or while in community supervision. Funds could be used for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act, and TDCJ's capital budget authority would increase by about \$49 million for the appropriations noted above.

Criminal justice training facility. The bill would appropriate to the Department of Criminal Justice \$35 million in general revenue funds to construct a training facility on department-owned land. Funds could be used during the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill also would allow the department to use \$35 million of its capital budget authority for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

HVAC installation. CSSB 30 would appropriate about \$226 million in general revenue funds to the Department of Criminal Justice to fund phase 1 of installing prison heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units. Funds could be used for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill would also allow the department to use about \$226 million of its capital budget authority for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Border security. CSSB 30 would provide about \$47 million in general revenue funds to the Texas Department of Public Safety to support border security deployments for Operation Lone Star. Funds could be used for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

County reimbursement for juvenile justice costs. The bill would appropriate to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) about \$15 million in general revenue funds to reimburse counties for the cost of holding juveniles when the department did not have adequate capacity for state placement. CSSB 30 also would provide the department with authority to transfer an amount not to exceed about \$4 million from certain strategies. Funds could be used for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Unobligated and unexpended funds. For varied agencies and programs in Art. 5, CSSB 30 would allow unobligated and unexpended funds remaining as of the effective date of the act to be reappropriated to the same agency and program for the same purpose as originally appropriated. Reappropriated funds could be used for the original appropriated purpose for an additional two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. Agencies and programs would include:

- Department of Criminal Justice: correctional managed health care and corrections information technology system project; and
- Department of Motor Vehicles: Accounts Receivable System Project.

Natural Resources - Art. 6

Hazardous and solid waste site remediation and cleanup. CSSB 30 would increase the amount of site remediation and cleanup funds available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality by moving additional revenue generated from cost recovery fees during fiscal 2022-23 from the Hazardous and Solid Waste Remediation Fee account to the commission. The bill would appropriate about \$3.8 million more from the Hazardous and Solid Waste Remediation Fee account to the commission for further site remediation and cleanup.

Pipeline transportation and storage of natural and other gases. CSSB 30 would appropriate to the Texas Railroad Commission \$541,000 in general revenue funds to implement rule changes adopted by the United States Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. The bill would authorize the employment of 10 additional full-time equivalent employees and would allow for the funds to be used for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Park acquisition. CSSB 30 would appropriate to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department \$100 million in general revenue funds for the purchase of real property to use as state parks. The bill also would allow the department to use \$100 million of its capital budget authority for the two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Parks and Wildlife deferred maintenance, construction, and information technology. The bill would appropriate about \$7 million from the sporting goods sales tax transfer to the parks and wildlife conservation and capital account to the Parks and Wildlife Department for continued development of land and infrastructure to support public use at the Albert and Bessie Kronkosky State Natural area and connectivity improvements at state parks. The bill also would authorize funds for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act and would allow the department to use capital budget authority of about \$7 million for the same time period.

Flood mitigation. The bill would appropriate about \$275 million in general revenue funds to the comptroller of public accounts for the flood infrastructure fund and would appropriate about \$275 million from the flood infrastructure fund to the Texas Water Development Board to be used for infrastructure projects related to drainage, flood mitigation, or flood control. In addition, the bill would appropriate about \$51 million in general revenue funds to the comptroller for deposit in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and about \$74 million in general revenue funds to the comptroller for deposit in the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund with the intent that the Water Development Board would use the funds to draw down federal matching funds. The bill would require the board to submit a report to the Legislature and the Legislative Budget Board showing the disposition of the funds and the amount of federal matching funds drawn down with the money. Funds could be used for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Data center services. CSSB 30 would appropriate to the Texas Water Development Board about \$1.5 million in general revenue for data center services. The bill also would allow the department to use about \$1.5 million in capital budget authority and would allow funding and capital budget authority to be used for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Commission on Environmental Quality capital budget authority. CSSB 30 would increase the capital budget authority of the Commission on Environmental Quality by \$415,000 for the purchase of ethylene oxide gas analyzers, peripheral equipment, and supplies.

Unobligated and unexpended funds. For varied agencies and programs in Art. 6, CSSB 30 would allow unobligated and unexpended funds remaining as of the effective date of the act to be reappropriated to the same agency and program for the same purpose as originally appropriated. Reappropriated funds could be used for the original appropriated purpose for an additional two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. Agencies and programs would include:

- Department of Agriculture: food banks and nutrition assistance;

- Commission on Environmental Quality: battery recycling facility remediation;
- General Land Office: the Alamo;
- Parks and Wildlife Department: Veterans Memorial Park, Flag Park, and local park grants; and
- Railroad Commission: mainframe transformation.

Business and Economic Development - Art. 7

Ector County airport runway expansion. CSSB 30 would repeal the funding requirement for the Texas Department of Transportation to utilize \$15 million in available funding to expand the Ector County airport runway. The bill would allow the department to expend the funds for any identified aviation purpose.

Ports. The bill would appropriate \$200 million in general revenue funds to the Department of Transportation for maritime port capital improvement projects. Funds could be used for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act. The bill also would allow the department to use \$200 million of its capital budget authority for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Department of Motor Vehicles data center services. CSSB 30 would appropriate about \$1.6 million from the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund to the Department of Motor Vehicles for data center services. The bill also would allow the department to use about \$1.6 million in capital budget authority and would allow use of the funds and capital authority for a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Unobligated and unexpended funds. CSSB 30 would reappropriate to the Department of Transportation unobligated and unexpended funds related to the Presidio Customs Inspection station that remained as of the effective date of the act. Reappropriated funds could be used by the department for the original appropriated purpose for an additional two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

Cross Article

State employee salary increase. CSSB 30 would appropriate an estimated \$99 million from all funds for salary increases between July 1, 2023, and August 31, 2023, for all employees paid according to the classification salary schedule. Under the bill, the state would contribute state funds for salary increases for state employees supported by federal funds if federal funding could not be used for this purpose. The salary increases would apply to part-time employees, all staff positions at the Windham School District and Texas Juvenile Justice Department, and non-instructional staff at the School for the Deaf and the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The increase would not apply to instructional staff at the School for the Deaf and the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired whose salaries were statutorily tied to the salary schedule of the Austin Independent School District.

Motor vehicle purchases. As specified in the bill, CSSB 30 would make varied appropriations from multiple funds to numerous agencies for the purchase of motor vehicles during a two-year period beginning on the effective date of the act.

SUPPORTERS SAY:

CSSB 30 would make important investments in Texas' future by making supplemental appropriations for the biennium. Addressing debt by providing an additional lump sum legacy payment to the employees retirement system, increasing the state's ability to purchase land for state parks, and providing additional funding for initiatives such as flood mitigation, border security, and state hospital construction are good investments that benefit Texans both today and tomorrow.

CSSB 30 would provide the support necessary to ensure retirees could depend on future retirement payments and would provide a more immediate state employee salary increase to help attract and retain state employees throughout the system. These would be substantial commitments that support the delivery of critical state services to Texans.

CRITICS SAY:

Rent assistance. CSSB 30 should include funding to replenish the Texas Rent Relief program (TRR). The shortage of affordable housing in Texas

worsened during the pandemic and eviction protections during that time were insufficient. Eviction filings are increasing in many parts of the state now that pandemic protections have expired. Low-income Texans, including people with disabilities, need direct assistance to help them remain in housing. The Legislature should consider using remaining ARPA funds to provide rent assistance during these challenging times. By meaningfully investing ARPA funds in TRR, Texas could prevent evictions and improve the housing outcomes of low-income and vulnerable Texans.

Operation Lone Star. The Legislature should not provide additional funding to Operation Lone Star (OLS). Billions of dollars have already been spent on OLS, which does not meet the needs of Texans. Concerns about increased fentanyl overdoses will not be addressed by OLS, as interventions are more effective than deterrence. Investing these funds in programs like rent assistance and cost of living adjustments would do more to address our state's current needs.

Nursing home emergency rate increase. CSSB 30 should include funding to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through the end of fiscal 2023. The temporary rate increase was provided in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and will end in May 2023. While the 2024-25 budget continues the rate increase, there will be a gap between the end of the public health emergency and the start of the new biennium that could result in a significant loss of funds to nursing homes. The emergency rate has become a critical funding source for nursing homes as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic. This appropriation would help to protect the financial stability of nursing homes until the start of the next biennium.

Alternatives to Abortion Program. CSSB 30 should include funding to continue services provided by the Alternatives to Abortion Program through the end of fiscal 2023. Since the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, the program has seen a significant increase in the request for services and as a result could run out of funds before the end of the biennium. Funding is necessary to support pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and

maternity homes, which provide essential services to women and children.

Benefit enhancement for state retirees. CSSB 30 would provide a benefit enhancement for retired teachers but would not include an enhancement for state employees. The last cost of living increase or benefit enhancement provided to state employees was in 2001. Prices have increased significantly over those years and many retirees are unable to afford basic needs like food and housing. A one-time, 13th check also would help to address many retirees' needs without adding future costs to the state.

NOTES:

According to the fiscal note, CSSB 30 would decrease general revenue related funds by \$15.1 billion through the 2024-25 biennium. In addition, general revenue dedicated account balances available for certification would be expected to increase by \$215 million during the 2022-23 biennium. Combined, the bill would result in a net decrease of \$14.8 billion in general revenue related funds.