(2) the number of veterans benefits claims awarded, the total dollar amount of veterans benefits claims awarded, and the costs to the state that were avoided as a result of state agencies' use of the system; and

(3) efforts to expand the use of the system and improve the effectiveness of shifting veterans from Medicaid and other public benefits to Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, including any barriers and how state agencies have addressed those barriers; and

(4) the extent to which the Texas Veterans Commission has targeted specific populations of veterans, including populations in rural counties and in specific age and service-connected disability categories, in order to maximize benefits for veterans and savings to the state [recommendations for future use of the system by state agencies].

SECTION 2. Section 531.0998(f), Government Code, is repealed.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on May 2, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 22, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 14, 2013.

Effective June 14, 2013.

CHAPTER 1017

H.B. No. 2585

AN ACT

relating to the reimbursement of utilities for relocation of utility facilities following improvement or construction of certain tolled highways.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Sections 203.092(a-1), (a-2), and (a-3), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a-i) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(3), the department and the utility shall share equally the cost of the relocation of a utility facility that is [made before September 1, 2013, and] required by the improvement of a nontolled highway to add one or more tolled lanes. [This subsection expires September 1, 2013.]

(a-2) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(3), the department and the utility shall share equally the cost of the relocation of a utility facility that is [made before September 1, 2013, and] required by the improvement of a nontolled highway that has been converted to a turnpike project or toll project. [This subsection expires September 1, 2013.]

(a-3) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(3), the department and the utility shall share equally the cost of the relocation of a utility facility that is [made before September 1, 2013, and] required by the construction on a new location of a turnpike project or toll project or the expansion of such a turnpike project or toll project. [This subsection expires September 1, 2013.]

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.

Passed by the House on May 2, 2013: Yeas 131, Nays 16, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2585 on May 22, 2013: Yeas 123, Nays 19, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 20, 2013: Yeas 26, Nays 4, 1 present, not voting.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 45.103, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) Any school district in need of funds to construct, repair, or renovate school buildings, purchase school buildings and school equipment, or equip school properties with necessary heating, water, sanitation, lunchroom, or electric facilities or in need of funds with which to employ a person who has special skill and experience to compile taxation data and that is financially unable out of available funds to construct, repair, renovate, or purchase school buildings, purchase school equipment, or equip school properties with necessary heating, water, sanitation, lunchroom, or electric facilities or is unable to pay the person for compiling taxation data, may, subject to this section, issue interest-bearing time warrants, in amounts sufficient to construct, purchase, equip, or improve school buildings and facilities or to pay all or part of the compensation of the person to compile taxation data, any law to the contrary notwithstanding. The warrants shall mature in serial installments of not more than 15 years from their date of issue. The warrants on maturity may be payable out of any available funds of the school district in the order of their maturity dates. Any interest-bearing time warrants may be issued and sold by the district for not less than their face value, and the proceeds used to provide funds required for the purpose for which they are issued. The warrants shall be entitled to first payment out of any available funds of the district as they become due. Included in the purposes for which interest-bearing time warrants may be issued is the payment of any amounts owed by the school district that was incurred in carrying out any of those purposes.

(a-1) A school district may also issue interest-bearing time warrants to refund warrants previously issued under this section if the refunding warrants are coterminous with the refunded obligations.

(c) A school district may not issue interest-bearing time warrants in excess of five percent of the assessed valuation of the district for the year in which the warrants are issued. The payment of interest-bearing time warrants in any one year may not exceed the anticipated surplus income of the district for the year in which the warrants are issued, based on the budget of the district for that year. The anticipated income computed under this section is exclusive of all bond taxes. A school district may not have outstanding at any one time warrants totaling in excess of $1 million ($500,000) under this section.

SECTION 2. Section 45.108(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Independent or consolidated school districts may borrow money for the purpose of paying maintenance expenses and may evidence those loans with negotiable or nonnegotiable notes, except that the loans may not at any time exceed 75 percent of the previous year's income. The notes may be payable from and secured by a lien on and pledge of any available funds of the district, including proceeds of a maintenance tax. The term “maintenance expenses” or “maintenance expenditures” as used in this section means any lawful expenditure of the school district other than payment of principal of and interest on bonds. The term includes expenditures relating to notes issued to refund notes previously issued under this section if the refunding notes are coterminous with the refunded obligation. The term also includes all costs incurred in connection with environmental cleanup and asbestos cleanup and removal programs implemented by school districts or in connection with the maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of heating, air conditioning, water, sanitation, roofing,