In anticipation of the 81st Texas Legislature authorizing and funding the debt service for TRBs for institutions of higher education for the 2010-2011 biennium, the UTHSCSA is requesting TRB funding for the following capital projects:

**“Gap” Funding for South Texas Research Facility ($20M).** Due to increases in construction costs, the funding we had received for the STRF is not adequate to enable us to accomplish our original goal of a 250,000 sq. ft. facility. The facility has been architecturally designed and is ready to begin construction. However, due to a 20% (14%) cost escalation on this $150M project we now lack sufficient resources to reach our project goal. Rather than materially compromise our original plan we are seeking incremental TRB funding to eliminate the $20M funding “gap” on this project.

**Facilities and Technology Infrastructure Upgrades ($20M).** Escalating utility costs and level general revenue formula allocations have limited the funding available to upgrade building and technology infrastructure over the past 4 biennia at a time when the age of many of UTHSCSA’s building require significant capital renewal investments. The $20 million in TRBs will allow us to invest in our building and technology infrastructure to insure that our older buildings and our technology systems are positioned to support our current operations and future growth. This funding will help us eliminate our deferred maintenance backlog and allow us to develop a funding plan to avoid a recurrence of this backlog.

**Academic Learning and Teaching Center Building ($50M).** This new facility will accommodate the expansion of our Multi-Disciplinary Teaching Labs which will enable us to grow enrollment in all schools. Importantly, it will enable us to increase medical and dental student enrollment as a precursor to increasing enrollment of 3rd and 4th year students at RAHC and LCE. The project will also upgrade our library to transform existing library space into today’s library “learning center environment” and expand our clinical skills capabilities to more of our academic programs.

**Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Health Related Institution (HRI) Formula Recommendations**

The UTHSCSA supports increased formula funding as recommended by the THECB at $7,500 per resident per year for 2010-2011, a 33% increase from $5,634 per resident per year for 2008-2009.

**Graduate Medical Education (GME)**

The UTHSCSA supports increased GME funding as recommended by the THECB at $7,500 per resident per year for 2010-2011, a 33% increase from $5,634 per resident per year for 2008-2009.

**Nursing Shortage Reduction Program**

The UTHSCSA supports the THECB recommendations to increase funding from the $14.7 million in 2008-2009 biennia to $25 million for 2010-2011 biennia for this program, which provides incentive funds to professional nursing programs that show an increase in nursing graduates and is open to health related institutions, community/technical colleges, state universities, independent institutions, and diploma programs. Since inception in FY2006, this program has awarded institutions funding based on a cumulative increase in nursing graduates of 1,379.

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San Antonio Life Sciences Institute (SALSI) $8 million
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA) is the leading research institution in South Texas and one of the major health sciences universities in the world. With an operating budget of $668 million, the Health Science Center is the chief catalyst for the $16.3 billion biosciences and health care sector in San Antonio’s economy. The Health Science Center has had an estimated $36 billion impact on the region since inception and has expanded to six campuses in San Antonio, Laredo, Harlingen and Edinburg. More than 24,000 graduates (physicians, dentists, nurses, scientists and other health professionals) serve in their fields, including many in Texas. Health Science Center faculty are international leaders in cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, aging, stroke prevention, kidney disease, orthopaedics, research imaging, transplant surgery, psychiatry and clinical neurosciences, pain management, genetics, nursing, dentistry and many other fields. For more information, visit www.uthscsa.edu

The Barshop Center for Longevity and Aging Studies $7 million
In 1998, the Health Science Center at San Antonio created the Barshop Center for Longevity and Aging Studies, housed in a building completed in March 2005 and funded through private donations. Currently, the Barshop Center ranks second nationally in funding from the National Institute on Aging (NIA). It receives more funding for basic research in aging than all of the medical centers and research institutions in Texas combined. The $7 million requested for the Barshop Institute will allow the creation of the Center for Healthy Aging. This multi-disciplinary Center will work in a synergistic and coordinated manner to deliver the best geriatric care and conduct outstanding clinical research on the management of age associated illnesses. The Center for Healthy Aging is the clinical arm of the Barshop Institute and will become as well recognized for its service and clinical research as has been established in the basic biomedical sciences arm of the Barshop Institute. The linkages between the basic biology of aging and this Center within the Barshop Institute will provide opportunities for translational and clinical gerontological science to flourish at UTHSCSA and improve the quality of life for all Texans as they age.

Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC) $10 million
The 75th Legislature (SB 606, Lucio/Hinojosa) authorized the creation of the RAHC. The medical student educational programs began in July 2002 with the opening of the Medical Education Division in Harlingen. The Medical Research Division (MRD) facility in Edinburg at the UT Pan American campus, opened in April 2006, is undertaking research on diseases prevalent in the South Texas Border Region. We are requesting $10 million in support of the RAHC. These funds will be important to help expand the first and second year UTHSCSA medical student bodies thereby allowing the eventual doubling of third and fourth year medical students assigned to the RAHC. These funds will also be important to leverage with our RAHC clinical partners to build additional residency programs and recruit clinician/scientists to the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV). Finally, the funds will also be critical to recruit clinical scientists to enhance the success of the RAHC Medical Research Division (MRD) in Edinburg.

The 76th Texas Legislature (SB 1288, Zaffirini/Cuellar) authorized the creation of the LCE. We are requesting $8 million for the LCE to support and grow current programs, to expand joint Allied Health degree programs with Texas A&M International University (TAMIU), and to establish a Dental Regional Campus in Laredo. The entire Mid Rio Grande Border area is designated as a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area. The creation of such a regional campus would be a national model for both undergraduate and graduate dental education and would be the first of its kind in the United States of America. The LCE supports a wide variety of educational programs and activities targeting the Laredo market. The nationally recognized South Texas Environmental Education and Research (STEER) program expanded to provide educational and field experiences in environmental issues to practitioners, residents, students, and elected/appointed officials both nationally and internationally.

Laredo Campus Extension (LCE) $8 million
The 76th Legislature (SB 1288, Zaffirini/Cuellar) authorized the creation of the LCE. We are requesting $8 million for the LCE to support and grow current programs, to expand joint Allied Health degree programs with Texas A&M International University (TAMIU), and to establish a Dental Regional Campus in Laredo. The entire Mid Rio Grande Border area is designated as a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area. The creation of such a regional campus would be a national model for both undergraduate and graduate dental education and would be the first of its kind in the United States of America. The LCE supports a wide variety of educational programs and activities targeting the Laredo market. The nationally recognized South Texas Environmental Education and Research (STEER) program expanded to provide educational and field experiences in environmental issues to practitioners, residents, students, and elected/appointed officials both nationally and internationally.

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