

CHAPTER 951

H.B. No. 2597

AN ACT

relating to creation of a Texas Center for Superconductivity at the University of Houston-University Park.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 111, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. TEXAS CENTER FOR SUPERCONDUCTIVITY

Sec. 111.100. ESTABLISHMENT. The Texas Center for Superconductivity is established at the University of Houston-University Park in Houston, Texas. The center is a component of the University of Houston-University Park and is under the governance of the board of regents of the University of Houston System.

Sec. 111.101. PURPOSE. The center is created to conduct research and development on all aspects of superconductivity from the basic theoretical and experimental framework to the technology transfer of this new technology to the marketplace.

Sec. 111.102. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The center shall operate in the field of superconductivity to:

- (1) conduct experimental and theoretical research;*
- (2) apply findings of basic research to useable products;*
- (3) act as a center of education;*
- (4) encourage interuniversity and interdepartmental research collaborations;*
- and*
- (5) act as a repository for knowledge and literature.*

(b) In carrying out its duties, the center shall perform research and development on superconductivity relating to the theoretical research in superconductivity; experimental research on superconducting materials; experimental research in the fundamental conditions necessary for superconductivity; application of new and existing superconducting materials to solve problems of industry and research, including superconducting electrical generators and magnets for medical applications, high magnetic field research, levitation in transportation, and for high energy acceleration; research in the materials science and metallurgical aspects of superconducting materials; research and development of the apparatus needed for low temperature works; and perform other research and provide other services consistent with the purpose and duties of the center.

Sec. 111.103. RESEARCH COORDINATION. The center may provide coordination of the activities of universities concerning superconductivity. The center may establish an advisory council consisting of representatives of participating universities, federal agencies, and the private sector to develop recommendations on the priorities for research and serve as a resource group on the projects.

Sec. 111.104. PRIVATE RESEARCH. In carrying out its powers and duties, the center may contract with and cooperate with private research entities.

Sec. 111.105. GRANTS AND FEDERAL FUNDS. The board may seek and accept gifts, grants, donations, and funds from federal agencies and private sources for the purposes of the center.

Sec. 111.106. STATE FUNDS. The center is authorized to receive state-appropriated funds as deemed appropriate by the legislature.

Sec. 111.107. PERSONNEL. The board may employ personnel for the center as necessary.

SECTION 2. For the fiscal year ending August 31, 1987, the sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated to the University of Houston from amounts received by the state as a result

of the settlement agreement in the petroleum overcharge litigation known as *In re: The Department of Energy Stripper Well Exemption Litigation*, 578 F. Supp. 586 (D. Kan. 1983), for the purpose of financing the operations of the Texas Center for Superconductivity at the University of Houston-University Park. The unexpended balance of that appropriation is reappropriated to the University of Houston for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1988, for the same purpose. The appropriation made under this section is expressly contingent on the United States Department of Energy approving expenditure of the money for this purpose.

SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on May 22, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2597 on May 30, 1987, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 2597 on June 1, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; passed subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 49a, of the Constitution of the State of Texas. Passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 29, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 2597 on June 1, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 49a, of the Constitution of the State of Texas.

Approved June 20, 1987.

Effective June 20, 1987.