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Board Meeting: 5/21/2026
Austin, Texas

Christina Melton Crain, Chairman
Robert P. Gauntt
Jodie Lee Jiles
Janiece Longoria
Nolan Perez
Stuart W. Stedman

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Convene	<i>3:45 p.m.</i> <i>Chairman Crain</i>		
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Adjourn	<i>4:15 p.m.</i>		

1. **U.T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action regarding Consent Agenda items, if any, assigned for Committee consideration**

RECOMMENDATION

The Board will be asked to approve the Consent Agenda beginning on [Page 175](#).

2. **U.T. System: Discussion and appropriate action regarding allocation of \$15 million from the Available University Fund (AUF) for additional support for the University of Texas Research, Engineering, and Application Laboratory for Healthcare Artificial Intelligence (UT-REAL-Health-AI) initiative; and a finding that the expenditure of AUF for this purpose is appropriate**

RECOMMENDATION

Dr. John M. Zerwas, in his roles as Chancellor and Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, concurs with the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer that the U.T. System Board of Regents

- a. authorize allocation of an additional \$15 million from the Available University Fund (AUF) to provide continuing support for the University of Texas Research, Engineering, and Application Laboratory for Healthcare Artificial Intelligence (UT-REAL-Health-AI) initiative, a new Systemwide collaboration to facilitate building an artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure; and
- b. find that the expenditure of AUF for this purpose is appropriate in furtherance of U.T. System Administration's responsibility to coordinate the activities of the U.T. System institutions in furtherance of its core mission to improve the lives of Texans and the world through education, healthcare, and research, and with the intent that the expenditure will benefit a broad number of the institutions.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of the UT-REAL-Health-AI collaboration is to coordinate and facilitate building AI infrastructure benefiting all health-related institutions and focusing on healthcare-related data integration and evaluation of AI applications to ensure the U.T. System remains a leader in this emerging field and that all Texans benefit from advancements in AI.

UT-REAL-Health-AI is an extension of the efforts of the U.T. Health Intelligence Platform (UT-HIP) which is a system-wide program run collaboratively by the U.T. System health institutions. The initial funding for UT-HIP was provided by the U.T. System Board of Regents on May 12, 2016, through an initiative known as the Clinical Data Network. Working across the System, drawing on the expertise of U.T. System leaders in healthcare, research, business, and information technology, the UT-HIP program is designed to integrate data and technology to improve patients' experience of care, improve the health of the populations served by U.T. institutions, and reduce the overall cost of health care across the System. UT-REAL-Health-AI will utilize the data resident within UT-HIP in its activities. Following approval by the U.T. System Board of Regents on February 20, 2025, of \$10 million from the Available University Fund for the UT-REAL-Health-AI initiative, the 89th Legislature appropriated \$15 million of general revenue for the 2026-27 biennium for the same purpose.

The proposed funding allocation is anticipated to extend support for UT-REAL-Health AI through Fiscal Year 2028. The funding continues support for the following activities:

- developing a core AI platform, including a statewide AI model inventory, a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)-compliant generative AI testing platform, and laboratories for secure data sharing and model evaluation;
- acquiring cloud services, computing resources, and physical collaborative workspaces necessary to support U.T. System health-related efforts; and
- hiring key personnel such as software developers, clinicians, AI specialists, and project managers who will design, implement, and maintain the AI platform.

U.T. System Administration is contracting with U.T. Medical Branch - Galveston as fiscal agent and several U.T. institutions to develop and launch elements of the UT-REAL-Health-AI initiative with annual evaluations by the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs to ensure overall success in attaining a systemwide collaboration.

Advance notice of this additional initiative funding was provided to the Legislative Budget Board as required by Rider 7, Page III-81 of the current *General Appropriations Act*.

3. **U.T. Health Science Center - Houston: Discussion and appropriate action regarding mandatory student services fee increase**

RECOMMENDATION

Dr. John M. Zerwas, in his roles as Chancellor and Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, concurs in the recommendation of the institutional president that the U.T. System Board of Regents authorize U.T. Health Science Center - Houston to increase the existing Student Services Shuttle Service fee from \$88.66 per year to \$97.53 per year, beginning in Academic Year 2026-2027.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with *Texas Education Code*, Section 54.503, an institution of higher education may charge and collect from students registered at the institution fees to cover the cost of student services, including to support student transportation services. U.T. Health Science Center - Houston currently assesses a Shuttle Service fee of \$88.66 per year. The contract to provide shuttle service to students was rebid in 2025, resulting in a 12.7% increase in cost per year. The proposed increase of the fee to \$97.53 per year would help offset some of that increased cost to continue to provide this service. Students approved the proposed increase in a referendum on January 20, 2026. With this increase, the total of all mandatory student services fees collected from a student for any one semester at U.T. Health Science Center - Houston will not exceed \$250, as required by *Texas Education Code* Section 54.503.

4. **U.T. Southwestern Medical Center: Request to approve the honorific naming of the Outpatient Building located on West Campus after William T. Solomon**

RECOMMENDATION

Dr. John M. Zerwas, in his roles as Chancellor and Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, concurs in the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor for External Relations and Chief Advancement Officer, and the institutional president that the U.T. System Board of Regents approve the honorific naming of the Outpatient Building located on West Campus after William T. Solomon to recognize the long history of significant contributions to the Dallas area.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Built in 2006, the 202,000-square-foot Outpatient Building houses a surgical center, imaging, plastic surgery, orthopedics, and pancreatic cancer prevention clinics. The building plays a vital role in U.T. Southwestern Medical Center's clinical mission by supporting the delivery of specialized outpatient care and advancing its commitment to providing accessible, high-quality care to patients throughout the North Texas area and beyond.

As the chairman, president, and CEO of the O'Donnell Foundation since 2016, William "Bill" Solomon has thoughtfully directed \$125,000,000 of the Foundation's funds to support improving the patient experience as well as strengthening the quality of care provided at U.T. Southwestern Medical Center. Since joining the Southwestern Medical Foundation Board of Trustees in 1981, he has distinguished himself as one of U.T. Southwestern Medical Center's most trusted advisors, champions, and civic ambassadors. His service as Chairman of the Board of Southwestern Medical Foundation from 2008 to 2014 helped guide U.T. Southwestern through a period of significant growth and strategic advancement. Mr. Solomon has also served as a member of the U.T. Southwestern Board of Visitors from 2004 to 2016 and has been a lifetime Honorary Trustee of U.T. Southwestern's President's Advisory Board since 2017.

Mr. Solomon's leadership has helped advance U.T. Southwestern Medical Center's major institutional campaigns, including spearheading the Innovations in Medicine campaign that raised approximately \$772,000,000, as well as the \$200,000,000 capital campaign for William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital. He also served on the Campaign Steering Committee for the Campaign for the Brain, resulting in more than \$500,000,000 in philanthropic support. His longstanding advocacy for improving the quality, accessibility, and patient-centered nature of care reflects a unique combination of philanthropic generosity, governance leadership, and personal engagement that has meaningfully strengthened U.T. Southwestern Medical Center's mission to educate, discover, and heal.

This naming proposal is consistent with the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 80307, relating to honorific namings to recognize Mr. Solomon's decades-long extraordinary contributions of leadership, service, and philanthropic influence.