Sec. 43.003. INVESTMENT OF PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND.

In compliance with this section, the State Board of Education may invest the permanent school fund in the types of securities, which must be carefully examined by the State Board of Education and be found to be safe and proper investments for the fund as specified 3 below:

(1) securities, bonds, or other obligations issued, insured, or guaranteed in any manner by the United States Government or any of its agencies and in bonds issued by this state;

(2) obligations and pledges of The University of Texas;

(3) corporate bonds, debentures, or obligations of United States corporations of at least "A" rating;

(4) obligations of United States corporations that mature in less than one year and are of the highest rating available at the time of investment;

(5) bonds issued, assumed, or guaranteed by the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank), the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the International Finance Corporation;

(6) bonds of counties, school districts, municipalities, road precincts, drainage, irrigation, navigation, and levee districts in this state, subject to the following requirements:

(A) the securities, before purchase, must have been diligently investigated by the attorney general both as to form and as to legal compliance with applicable laws;

(B) the attorney general ’s certificate of validity procured by the party offering the bonds, obligations, or pledges must accompany the securities when they are submitted for registration to the comptroller, who must preserve the certificates;

(C) the public securities, if purchased, and when certified and registered as specified under Paragraph (B), are incontestable unless issued fraudulently or in violation of a constitutional limitation, and the certificates of the attorney general are prima facie evidence of the validity of the bonds and bond coupons; and
(D) after the issuing political subdivision has received the proceeds from the sales of the securities, the issuing agency is estopped to deny their validity, and the securities are valid and binding obligations;

(7) preferred stocks and common stocks that the State Board of Education considers proper investments for the permanent school fund, subject to the following requirements:

(A) in making all of those investments, the State Board of Education shall exercise the judgment and care under the circumstances then prevailing that persons of ordinary prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not in regard to speculation but in regard to the permanent disposition of their funds, considering the probable income as well as the probable safety of their capital;

(B) the company issuing the stock must be incorporated in the United States, and the stocks must have paid dividends for five consecutive years or longer immediately before the date of purchase and the stocks, except for bank stocks and insurance stocks, must be listed on an exchange registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission or its successors; and

(C) not more than one percent of the permanent school fund may be invested in stock issued by one corporation and not more than five percent of the voting stock of any one corporation will be owned; and

(8) notwithstanding any other law or provision of this code, first lien real estate mortgage securities insured by the Federal Housing Administration under the National Housing Act of the United States, or in any other first lien real estate mortgage securities guaranteed in whole or in part by the United States.