

AN ACT

relating to laboratory and certain other related fees for public junior colleges.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 54.501, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) An institution of higher education shall set and collect a laboratory fee [~~charge~~] in an amount sufficient to cover [~~in general~~] the general cost of laboratory materials and supplies used by a student. An [~~For an~~] institution other than a public junior college may [~~, the laboratory~~] charge a laboratory fee in an amount that is [~~shall be~~] not less than \$2 nor more than \$30 for any one semester or summer term for a [~~any~~] student in any one laboratory course, except that the amount of the laboratory fee may [~~but shall~~] not exceed the cost of actual materials and supplies used by the student. A [~~For a~~] public junior college may [~~, the laboratory~~] charge a laboratory fee in an amount that does not exceed the lesser of [~~shall be not more than~~] \$24 per semester credit hour of laboratory course credit for which the [~~any one semester or summer term for any~~] student is enrolled or [~~in any one laboratory course, but shall not exceed~~] the cost of actual materials and supplies used by the student.

(c) The governing board of a public junior college may set

1 and collect a fee per contact hour, not to exceed \$4, for each
2 person registered in an aerospace mechanics certification course
3 where the fee is required to offset that portion of the cost of the
4 course, including the cost of equipment and of professional
5 instruction or tutoring, that is not covered by state funding or by
6 the fee in Subsection (a).

7 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
8 to fees imposed for a semester or term that begins on or after the
9 effective date of this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1546 passed the Senate on May 19, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1546 passed the House on May 28, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor