

By: Quintanilla

H.B. No. 2212

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the student union fee at The University of Texas at El  
3 Paso.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 54.535, Education Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 54.535. STUDENT UNION FEE; THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT  
8 EL PASO. (a) The board of regents of The University of Texas System  
9 may impose [~~levy~~] a student union fee not to exceed \$75 [~~\$30~~] per  
10 student for each regular semester or each summer session of six  
11 weeks or more, and not to exceed \$37.50 [~~\$15~~] per student for each  
12 summer session of less than six weeks, for the sole purpose of  
13 financing, constructing, operating, maintaining, and improving a  
14 student union building for The University of Texas at El Paso.

15 (b) Subject to the limits provided by Subsection (a), the  
16 board of regents may increase the student union fee in order to  
17 provide sufficient funds to support the operation of the student  
18 union building. The student union fee may not be increased from one  
19 academic year to the next by more than \$3 per student for a regular  
20 semester or summer session of six weeks or more, or by more than  
21 \$1.50 per student for a summer session of less than six weeks,  
22 unless the increase is approved by a majority vote of those students  
23 participating in a general student election called at the  
24 university for that purpose.

1        (c) The board of regents may pledge the student union fees  
2 imposed under this section to pay obligations issued pursuant to  
3 the revenue financing system of The University of Texas System.

4        (d) A student union fee imposed under this section is in  
5 addition to any other fee the board of regents is authorized by law  
6 to impose and may not be considered in determining the maximum  
7 amount of student services fees that may be imposed under Section  
8 54.503 [; provided, however, that the fee may not be increased above  
9 \$15 per student for each regular semester or each summer session of  
10 six weeks or more and \$7.50 per student for each summer session of  
11 less than six weeks unless the increase is approved by a majority  
12 vote of those students participating in a general election. The  
13 fees herein authorized to be levied are in addition to any use or  
14 service fee now or hereafter authorized to be levied.

15        ~~[(b) Such fees shall be deposited to an account known as The~~  
16 ~~University of Texas at El Paso student union fee account and shall~~  
17 ~~be placed under the control of and subject to the order of the~~  
18 ~~Student Union Advisory Committee. The committee shall annually~~  
19 ~~submit to the president of The University of Texas at El Paso a~~  
20 ~~complete and itemized budget to be accompanied by a full and~~  
21 ~~complete report of all activities conducted during the past year~~  
22 ~~and all expenditures made incident thereto. The president shall~~  
23 ~~submit the budget to the board of regents as part of the~~  
24 ~~institutional budget. The board of regents shall make such changes~~  
25 ~~in the budget as it deems necessary before approving the budget, and~~  
26 ~~shall then levy the fees, within the limits herein fixed, in such~~  
27 ~~amounts as will be sufficient to meet the budgetary needs of the~~

1 ~~student union building~~].

2 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply  
3 beginning with fees imposed for the 2005 fall semester.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.