1-1 S.B. No. 32 By: Zaffirini (In the Senate - Filed November 8, 2004; January 31, 2005, read first time and referred to Subcommittee on Higher Education; March 7, 2005, reported favorably to Committee on Education; March 29, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute from Committee on Education by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; March 29, 2005, sent to printer.) 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5 1-6 1-7 1-8 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 32 Zaffirini By:

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## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to certain special tuition rates at institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.0514 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.0514. SPECIAL SUMMER TUITION RATES. The governing of an institution of higher education may charge an undergraduate student enrolled for a summer term or session at the institution an amount of tuition that is less than the amount of tuition otherwise charged under Section 54.0513, but not less than one-half of that amount.

SECTION 2. Section 54.072, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 54.072. FLAT RATE TUITION AND FEES [PILOT PROJECT]. In this section:

- rate tuition and fees" means tuition and (1) "Flat fees that are charged in the same total amount to each student included in the group of students subject to the flat rate tuition
- (2) "Tuition and fees" [, "tuition"] means all academic program costs related to enrollment in an academic course or degree program that are charged to a student, including all charges designated as tuition, mandatory fees, and incidental fees. The term does not include voluntary fees.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the governing board of an institution of higher education [regents of The University of Texas System] may charge flat rate [establish a pilot project at The University of Texas at Austin involving not more than two colleges or degree programs designated by the board of regents under which the university charges the same amount of] tuition and fees, in a different amount for each group, to each of the following groups of [all undergraduate] students enrolled in a college or degree program at the institution:

  - (1) all undergraduate resident students;(2) all undergraduate nonresident students;
  - (3) all graduate resident students; and
- (4) <u>all graduate nonresident students</u> [included in the <u>project].</u>
- (c) The board [of regents] may not require a full-time student who pays flat rate tuition and fees under this section [the pilot project] to pay more tuition and fees than the average amount of tuition and fees that a student [not included in the pilot project] would pay for enrolling in the institution [university for 14 semester credit hours] for the same semester or term for:

  (1) 14 semester credit hours if the student is an
- undergraduate student; or
- (2) nine semester credit hours if the student is a graduate student.
- [(d) The board of regents shall evaluate the effect of flat rate tuition charged under the pilot project on the number of semester credit hours taken by students included in the project each semester. The board shall report the results of the evaluation to the legislature not later than December 31, 2002, and December

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2-1 <del>31, 2004.</del>

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[(e) This section expires September 1, 2005.]

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the logislative session legislative session.

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