

By: Lucio III

H.B. No. 1505

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a fee to support intercollegiate athletics at The University of Texas at Brownsville.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.551 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.551. INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS FEE; THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE. (a) Except as otherwise provided by Subsection (f), the board of regents of The University of Texas System may impose on each student enrolled at The University of Texas at Brownsville an intercollegiate athletics fee in an amount not to exceed \$7 per semester credit hour.

(a-1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the maximum fee that may be imposed under this section for the 2008-2009 academic year is \$5 per semester credit hour, and the maximum fee that may be imposed under this section for the 2009-2010 academic year is \$6 per semester credit hour. This subsection expires January 1, 2011.

(b) The board shall deposit revenue from the fee to the credit of an account known as The University of Texas at Brownsville intercollegiate athletics fee account. Money in the account shall be used in accordance with the terms of the partnership agreements entered into between The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College under Section 78.02.

1 (c) The board may not increase the amount of the fee by more
2 than 10 percent from one academic year to the next unless the amount
3 of the increase is approved by:

4 (1) a majority vote of the students participating in a
5 general student election held at the university for that purpose;
6 and

7 (2) a majority of the members of the legislative body
8 of the student government of the university.

9 (d) A fee imposed under this section is in addition to any
10 other fee the board is authorized by law to impose.

11 (e) Subject to the limitations of this section on the amount
12 of the fee and any increase in the amount of the fee, the fee imposed
13 under this section must be in the same amount as the intercollegiate
14 athletics fee charged a student at Texas Southmost College by the
15 board of trustees of Southmost Union Junior College District. A
16 student attending either or both institutions may be charged an
17 intercollegiate athletics fee by only one of the institutions.

18 (f) The board may not impose the fee authorized by this
19 section on a student who is enrolled solely in online courses at the
20 university.

21 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2008 fall
22 semester.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect August 1, 2008.