

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 1520

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to student fees at Texas Southern University.

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

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It has been the tradition and practice at Texas Southern University that a new mandatory student fee not be imposed unless the fee is approved by a majority of students participating in a general student election at the university. In addition, by law the amount of a mandatory student fee at Texas Southern University may not be increased by more than 10 percent in any academic year unless the amount of the increase is approved by a majority of students participating in a general student election at the university. It is the intent of the legislature that the amounts of mandatory student fees authorized by law for Texas Southern University continue to be subject to a majority vote of the students participating in a general student election at the university.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 54.522(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The board of regents of Texas Southern University may levy and collect a student fee not to exceed \$75 [~~\$35~~] per student for each semester of the long session and not to exceed \$17.50 per student for each term of the summer session, from each student enrolled in Texas Southern University, as may in its discretion be just and necessary for the purpose of operating, maintaining,

1 improving, and equipping the student center and acquiring or
2 constructing additions to the student center. A fee collected
3 under this section is in addition to any other use or service fee
4 authorized to be levied.

5 SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 54.5221(a), Education Code,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The board of regents of Texas Southern University may
8 levy and collect a recreational facility fee not to exceed \$90 [~~\$50~~]
9 per student for each semester of the regular term or \$50 per student
10 for each term of the summer session from each student enrolled in
11 Texas Southern University, for the sole purpose of constructing,
12 operating, maintaining, improving, and equipping a recreational
13 facility or program at the institution. A fee collected under this
14 section is in addition to any other use or service fee authorized to
15 be levied.

16 SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 54.5222(a), Education Code,
17 is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) The board of regents of Texas Southern University may
19 levy and collect a medical services fee not to exceed \$50 [~~\$35~~]
20 student for each semester of the regular term or \$17.50 for each
21 term of the summer session from each student enrolled in Texas
22 Southern University for the sole purpose of operating, maintaining,
23 improving, and equipping a medical service facility at the
24 university, acquiring and constructing additions to the medical
25 service facility, and providing medical services to students
26 registered at the university. A fee collected under this section is
27 in addition to any other use or service fee authorized to be levied.

1 SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Subchapter E, Chapter 54, Education
2 Code, is amended by adding Sections 54.5223, 54.5224, and 54.5225
3 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 54.5223. SHUTTLE SERVICE FEE; TEXAS SOUTHERN
5 UNIVERSITY. (a) The board of regents of Texas Southern University
6 may levy and collect a shuttle service fee in an amount not to
7 exceed \$35 per student for each regular semester from each student
8 enrolled at the university for the sole purpose of financing
9 shuttle service for students attending the university. The fee may
10 not be imposed unless the fee is approved by a majority vote of the
11 students participating in a general student election held at the
12 university for that purpose.

13 (b) The fees collected under this section shall be deposited
14 to an account known as the Texas Southern University Shuttle
15 Service Fee Account and shall be expended in accordance with a
16 budget submitted to and approved by the board of regents. The board
17 of regents shall make any changes in the budget the board considers
18 necessary before approving the budget and shall impose the fee,
19 within the limits provided by this section, in an amount sufficient
20 to meet the budget as approved.

21 (c) The board of regents may not increase the amount of the
22 fee by more than 10 percent from one academic year to the next
23 unless the amount of the increase is approved by a majority vote of
24 the students participating in a general student election held at
25 the university for that purpose.

26 (d) A fee imposed under this section is in addition to any
27 other fee authorized by law and may not be considered in determining

1 the maximum amount of student services fees that may be imposed
2 under Section 54.503.

3 Sec. 54.5224. INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS FEE; TEXAS
4 SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY. (a) The board of regents of Texas Southern
5 University may levy and collect an intercollegiate athletics fee
6 from each student enrolled at the university during a regular
7 semester for the purpose of developing and maintaining an
8 intercollegiate athletics program at the university. The fee may
9 not be imposed unless approved by a majority vote of the students
10 participating in a general student election held at the university
11 for that purpose.

12 (b) The amount of the fee may not exceed \$10 per semester
13 credit hour for each semester unless a greater amount is approved by
14 a majority vote of the students participating in a general election
15 held at the university for that purpose. The amount of the fee
16 imposed on a student in a semester may not exceed the amount of the
17 fee imposed on a student enrolled in 12 semester credit hours during
18 the same semester.

19 (c) A fee imposed under this section is in addition to any
20 other fee authorized by law and may not be considered in determining
21 the maximum amount of student services fees that may be imposed
22 under Section 54.503.

23 Sec. 54.5225. PARKING FACILITIES FEE; TEXAS SOUTHERN
24 UNIVERSITY. (a) The board of regents of Texas Southern University
25 may levy and collect a parking facilities fee in an amount not to
26 exceed \$195 per student for each regular semester from each student
27 enrolled at the university for the sole purpose of constructing,

1 operating, maintaining, improving, and equipping parking
2 facilities at the university. The fee may not be imposed unless the
3 fee is approved by a majority vote of the students participating in
4 a general student election held at the university for that purpose.

5 (b) The fees collected under this section shall be deposited
6 to an account known as the Texas Southern University Parking
7 Facilities Fee Account and shall be expended in accordance with a
8 budget submitted to and approved by the board of regents. The board
9 of regents shall make any changes in the budget the board considers
10 necessary before approving the budget and shall impose the fee,
11 within the limits provided by this section, in an amount sufficient
12 to meet the budget as approved.

13 (c) The board of regents may not increase the amount of the
14 fee by more than 10 percent from one academic year to the next
15 unless the amount of the increase is approved by a majority vote of
16 the students voting in a general student election held for that
17 purpose.

18 (d) A fee imposed under this section is in addition to any
19 other fee authorized by law and may not be considered in determining
20 the maximum amount of student services fees that may be imposed
21 under Section 54.503.

22 SECTION 6. TRANSITION PROVISION. The change in law made by
23 this Act applies to fees charged beginning with the fall 2007
24 semester.

25 SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
26 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
27 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas

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1 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
2 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.