By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1233

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the general property deposit paid by a student to a

3 public institution of higher education.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 54.502, Education Code,

An institution of higher education may collect a

6 is amended to read as follows:

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reasonable deposit in an amount not to exceed \$100 from each student to insure the institution against <u>any</u> losses, damages, and breakage for which the student is responsible and to cover any other amounts owed by the student to the institution [in libraries and laboratories]. The institution shall return to the student the deposit, less any such amounts owed to the institution by the student. The deposit must be returned within a reasonable period after the date of the student's withdrawal or graduation from the institution, not to exceed 180 days, that provides the institution with sufficient time to identify all amounts owed and to determine that the student does not intend to enroll at the institution in the semester or summer session immediately following the student's withdrawal or graduation or, if the student withdraws or graduates in the spring semester, in the next fall semester [The deposit shall be returned on the withdrawal or graduation of a student, less an amount necessary to cover any loss, damage, or breakage caused by the student].

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SECTION 2. 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 September 1, 2007.