

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 2961

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to authorizing an increase in the student union fee at the
3 University of Houston.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 54.526, Education Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
7 follows:

8 (a) The board of regents of the University of Houston System
9 may levy a student union fee, not to exceed \$150 [~~\$35~~] per student
10 for each regular semester and not to exceed \$75 [~~\$17.50~~] per student
11 for each term of the summer session. The sole purpose of the fee is
12 financing, constructing, operating, maintaining, and improving a
13 Student Union Building for the University of Houston. The fees
14 herein authorized to be levied are in addition to any use or service
15 fee now or hereafter authorized to be levied.

16 (c) The fee may not be charged after the fifth academic year
17 in which the fee is first charged unless, before the end of that
18 academic year, the university has issued bonds payable in whole or
19 in part from the fee, in which event the fee may not be charged after
20 the academic year in which all such bonds, including refunding
21 bonds for those bonds, have been fully paid.

22 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies
23 beginning with student fees charged by a public institution of
24 higher education for the 2009-2010 academic year. Student fees

1 charged by a public institution of higher education for an academic
2 year before that academic year are covered by the law in effect
3 before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is
4 continued in effect for that purpose.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.