

1-1 By: Coleman (Senate Sponsor - Ellis) H.B. No. 2961
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2009;
1-3 May 7, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Higher
1-4 Education; May 20, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 20, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to authorizing an increase in the student union fee at the
1-9 University of Houston.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 54.526, Education Code, is amended by
1-12 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
1-13 follows:

1-14 (a) The board of regents of the University of Houston System
1-15 may levy a student union fee, not to exceed \$150 [~~\$35~~] per student
1-16 for each regular semester and not to exceed \$75 [~~\$17.50~~] per student
1-17 for each term of the summer session. The sole purpose of the fee is
1-18 financing, constructing, operating, maintaining, and improving a
1-19 Student Union Building for the University of Houston. The fees
1-20 herein authorized to be levied are in addition to any use or service
1-21 fee now or hereafter authorized to be levied.

1-22 (c) The fee may not be charged after the fifth academic year
1-23 in which the fee is first charged unless, before the end of that
1-24 academic year, the university has issued bonds payable in whole or
1-25 in part from the fee, in which event the fee may not be charged after
1-26 the academic year in which all such bonds, including refunding
1-27 bonds for those bonds, have been fully paid.

1-28 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies
1-29 beginning with student fees charged by a public institution of
1-30 higher education for the 2009-2010 academic year. Student fees
1-31 charged by a public institution of higher education for an academic
1-32 year before that academic year are covered by the law in effect
1-33 before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is
1-34 continued in effect for that purpose.

1-35 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-36 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-37 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-38 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-39 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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