

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 63
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Education
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Engrossed

DIGEST

In the 74th Legislature, the Texas A&M University System and the Texas State University System were authorized to begin an off-campus debit card program. While the debit card program in place at the Texas A&M University before the law went into effect allowed students to use a debit card to purchase books, food, and other items on campus, some students indicated an interest in the off-campus utilization of the debit card system. This bill authorizes the governing board of an institution of higher education to establish a debit card program and permit off-campus use of the debit card.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 63 authorizes the governing board of an institution of higher education to establish a debit card program and permit off-campus use of the debit card.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 51.940, Education Code, as follows:

Sec. 51.940. STUDENT DEBIT CARDS. Deletes a provision requiring this section to apply only to an institution that is a component of the Texas A&M University System or a component of the Texas State University System. Authorizes the governing board of an institution of higher education to establish a program to provide students enrolled at the institution with a debit card. Redesignates existing subsections. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.