

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R4360 JSA-D

C.S.S.B. 149  
By: Harris  
Higher Education  
3/24/1999  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST**

Currently, Texas law limits mandatory student fees at public universities to \$150 per semester. The University of Texas at Arlington student body voted in 1998 to separate the intercollegiate athletics fee from the current \$150 cap. C.S.S.B. 149 would allow the board of regents of The University of Texas System to impose a mandatory intercollegiate athletics fee at The University of Texas at Arlington.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 149 authorizes student intercollegiate athletic fees at The University of Texas at Arlington.

### **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 Chapter 54E, Education Code, by adding Section 54.5121, as follows:

Sec. 54.5121. INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC FEE; THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON. Authorizes the board of regents of The University of Texas System to impose a mandatory intercollegiate athletics fee at The University of Texas at Arlington. Prohibits the fee from exceeding \$7.50 per semester credit hour for each regular semester, unless increased as provided by Subsection (b). Prohibits the fee from being imposed unless approved by a majority vote of the students participating in a general student election held for that purpose. Authorizes an increase in the fee per semester credit hour only if approved by a majority vote of the students participating in a general student election held for that purpose. Authorizes the board of regents to prorate the amount of the fee for a summer session. Prohibits the fee imposed under this section from being considered in determining the maximum student services fees that may be imposed under Section 54.503. Authorizes the board of regents to impose the fee without calling an additional election under Subsection (a), if a mandatory intercollegiate fee in an amount within the limit provided by Subsection (a) was approved by a majority vote of the students participating in a general student election at the university not more than two years before the effective date of this section. Provides that this subsection expires January 1, 2001.

SECTION 2. Provides that this Act applies beginning with the fall semester of 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.  
Effective date: upon passage.

### **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

SECTION 1.

Amends Section 54.5121, Education Code, by adding Subsection (e), to authorize the board of regents to impose the fee without calling an additional election under Subsection (a), if a mandatory intercollegiate fee in an amount within the limit provided by Subsection (a) was approved by a majority vote of the students participating in a general student election at the university not more than two years before the effective date of this section. Provides that this subsection expires January 1, 2001.

