

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 65
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Finance
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Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, when a public university or junior college raises the tuition and/or fees after students have registered for the semester, the institution may charge students the higher rate. This presents a disservice to students who make plans to pay a certain amount and later are charged extra for tuition or fee increases unknown to students either before or at the time of their registration. This bill would prohibit a public institution of higher education from charging a student higher tuition rates or fees for a given semester if that student registered before the university set higher rates.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 65 prohibits a public institution of higher education from charging a student higher tuition rates or fees for a given semester if that student registered before the university set higher rates.

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 54A, Education Code, by adding Section 54.009, as follows:

Sec. 54.009. INCREASE IN TUITION RATE OR FEES. Prohibits an institution of higher education that sets the tuition rates and fees for a semester or summer term and permits a student to register for that semester or summer term from increasing the tuition rate or fees charged that student for that semester or summer term after the student registers regardless of whether that student has paid the tuition and fees for that semester or summer term.

SECTION 2. Provides that this Act applies beginning with tuition and fees due for the fall semester of 1997.

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