

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R10266 JSA-F

H.B. 2664  
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Higher Education  
4/29/1999  
Engrossed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, public institutions of higher education are given statutory authority to establish a program to provide students with a debit card for purchases on or off campus; however, private or independent universities are unable to issue a debit card. H.B. 2664 would authorize the governing board of a private or independent institution of higher education to establish a program to provide students enrolled at the institution with a debit card, and would allow the governing board to open the program to outside merchants, under certain conditions.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, H.B. 2664 authorizes private or independent institutions of higher education to operate a student debit card program.

### **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 51Z, Education Code, by adding Section 51.946, as follows:

Sec. 51.946. STUDENT DEBIT CARDS AT PRIVATE OR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. (a) Authorizes the governing board of a private or independent institution of higher education to establish a program to provide students enrolled at the institution with a debit card.

(b) Authorizes a student issued a debit card under the program to use the card to purchase merchandise or service available through the institution or through a person authorized to sell merchandise or service at the institution, as determined by the governing board.

(c) Authorizes the program to allow a person who is in business to sell merchandise or service of the same kind as the merchandise or service that a student may purchase under Subsection (b) to participate in the program under the same or equivalent terms applicable to a person authorized to sell merchandise under Subsection (b) and accept a debit card payment from a student to whom a debit card has been issued under the program for purchase of that merchandise or service.

(d) Authorizes the private or independent institution of higher education to assess participating businesses a fee for the implementation and administration of the program.

(e) Defines “private or independent institution of higher education” and “person.”

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.