

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1326  
By: Gallegos  
State Affairs  
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As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, Texas law provides that tuition for the University of Houston College of Optometry may be three times the statutory undergraduate rate of tuition. A 1999 Coordinating Board study found that student to faculty ratios were high; and faculty salaries, tuition, and fees were low. The college would like to reduce the student to faculty ration and increase faculty salaries to a more competitive level. S.B. 1326 would authorize the University of Houston College of Optometry to increase tuition for optometry students.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 1326 amends tuition charge for students of optometry at the University of Houston College of Optometry.

### **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 54.008(e), Education Code, to require the governing board of an institution of higher education to set tuition for an optometry program at the institution at a rate that is at least equal to the rate prescribed by Subchapter B of this chapter, but not more than four, rather than three, times the rate prescribed by Subchapter B of this chapter.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.