

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R3437 JSA-F

S.B. 149
By: Harris
Higher Education
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As Filed

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. 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, 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.

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

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