

UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON

Student Government Association

To: Dr. Richard Walker
Vice Chancellor / Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Services

CC: Keith Kowalka
Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs - Student Life

From: Shaun Smith
Speaker of the Senate

Date: 16 February, 2015

Subject: 5-Year Review of SFAC Student Service Fee Cap

The Student Government Association Senate proposed this legislation in September while the Student Fees Advisory Committee was preparing to convene. The student fee cap had been established by legislation previously to be \$250 per student per semester; the fees were then raised by student referendum when the stadium fee was proposed to the student body. The Senate Administration and Finance committee met to discuss the question of raising the cap so that SFAC might recommend a fee increase should they feel it necessary.

This authority is granted to the student body or its duly elected government by the Texas Education Code Section 54.5061. If no action is taken by these entities to raise the student fee cap, the institution is allowed to establish an increase of student fees no greater than 10% of the previous year's dues. The interest in raising the limit to \$270 was to establish a student mandated cap on student fees that did not allow the limit to be approached.

This measure was called to question on 17 September, 2014 and passed unanimously with all present and voting members. Any further questions or inquiries regarding the nature or process of this legislation can be directed to myself. Thank you for your time in reviewing this measure.

All my best,



Shaun Smith
Speaker of the Senate

HOUSTON'S CARNEGIE-DESIGNATED TIER ONE PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

Date introduced: September 17, 2014

Date Passed: September 17, 2014

Author(s): Senator Pooja Magadi

Sponsor(s): Senator Sunil Motwani, Senator Sarah Aimad, Senator Nestor Garcia, Senator Trenton Fuller, Senator Issam Kadiwala, Senator Enrique Martinez, Senator Tanzeem Chowdhury, Senator Marcus Pourreau

Committee: Administration and Finance

Draft: Final

5-Year Review of SFAC Student Service Fee Cap

Whereas, Pursuant to the Texas Education Code the Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC) makes recommendations concerning the allocation of Student Fees and fiscal year; and

Whereas, Section 54.5061 specifies that the annual amount of student service fee per student may not exceed 10% higher than the previous year's student service fee unless there is a prior approval by a majority vote of students voting in a referendum, or by a majority vote of the duly elected student government; and

Whereas, The current University of Houston student service fee rate is at a ceiling of \$250 per semester for a student with six or more hours; and

Whereas, Support services and student programs, facility projects, and other initiatives that enhance student life at the University of Houston may require funds in excess of the \$250 ceiling; and

Whereas, This resolution is contingent upon the President Khator indicating by her signature below that neither President Khator or her delegates will attempt to charge a semester total Student Service Fee in excess of \$270 without prior approval by a majority vote of students voting in a referendum, or by a majority vote of the duly elected student government.

Therefore be it enacted by the Senate of the 51st Administration of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston that:

The Student Fees Advisory Committee may recommend, and that the University of Houston President and the UHS Board of Regents may approve a per semester student service fee in excess of the current ceiling of \$250 per semester by raising the limit to \$270.

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Be it further enacted that,

Pursuant to Texas Education Code 54.5061.H:

If, in an academic year, the total compulsory fees charged under this section are more than 10 percent higher than the previous year's compulsory fees, the increase is not effective unless approved by a majority vote of the students voting in an election called for that purpose or by a majority vote of the duly elected student government.

Be it further enacted that,

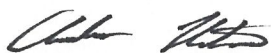
A copy of this bill be made readily available on the Student Fees Advisory Committee website.



Shaun Smith
Speaker of the Senate
University of Houston – Main Campus

Date of Senate Approval:

17 SEP 2014



Charles Haston
Student Body President
University of Houston – Main Campus

APPROVED

Date of President's Approval:

9/18/14

Pursuant to Student Government Association Constitution Article IV, § 11, Clause 2, this legislation will be presented to the President of the University. Approval or disapproval by the President of the University, and their response, will be recorded in the Senate Journal on additional signature attachments to be included with this legislation.

HOUSTON'S CARNEGIE-DESIGNATED TIER ONE PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

