

1-1 By: Jackson S.B. No. 592
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 17, 2005; March 1, 2005, read
1-3 first time and referred to Subcommittee on Agriculture and Coastal
1-4 Resources; March 30, 2005, reported favorably to Committee on
1-5 Natural Resources; April 11, 2005, reported favorably from
1-6 Committee on Natural Resources by the following vote: Yeas 10,
1-7 Nays 0; April 11, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the creation of a Texas Gulf Coast Legislative Working
1-11 Group and a Multistate Gulf Coast Legislative Working Group.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Chapter 33, Natural Resources Code, is amended
1-14 by adding Subchapter I to read as follows:

1-15 SUBCHAPTER I. GULF COAST LEGISLATIVE WORKING GROUP

1-16 Sec. 33.651. LEGISLATIVE FINDING. The legislature finds
1-17 that it would be in the best interests of this state for appropriate
1-18 members of the legislature and the land commissioner together with
1-19 their counterparts in other states bordering the Gulf of Mexico to
1-20 form a Multistate Gulf Coast Legislative Working Group to work
1-21 together and with members of congress from the Gulf Coast states on
1-22 issues of common concern to the Gulf Coast.

1-23 Sec. 33.652. TEXAS GULF COAST LEGISLATIVE WORKING GROUP.

1-24 (a) The Texas Gulf Coast Legislative Working Group is composed of:

1-25 (1) the land commissioner;

1-26 (2) the chair of each standing or select committee or
1-27 subcommittee of the senate with jurisdiction over coastal issues,
1-28 as determined by the lieutenant governor; and

1-29 (3) the chair of each standing or select committee or
1-30 subcommittee of the house of representatives with jurisdiction over
1-31 coastal issues, as determined by the speaker of the house of
1-32 representatives.

1-33 (b) The members of the Texas working group shall annually
1-34 elect a presiding officer and assistant presiding officer for the
1-35 working group from among the members.

1-36 (c) The Texas working group shall meet as provided by rule
1-37 of the Texas working group.

1-38 (d) Members of the Texas working group may use their staff
1-39 to support working group activities and may travel on working group
1-40 business in accordance with the rules and procedures that apply to
1-41 the members' travel on official business.

1-42 Sec. 33.653. TEXAS WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES; MULTISTATE
1-43 GULF COAST LEGISLATIVE WORKING GROUP. (a) The Texas working group
1-44 shall:

1-45 (1) identify coastal issues of common concern to Texas
1-46 and one or more other Gulf Coast states;

1-47 (2) approach the group members' counterparts in other
1-48 Gulf Coast states to work together on issues of common concern;

1-49 (3) in coordination with the group members'
1-50 counterparts in other Gulf Coast states, communicate with
1-51 appropriate members of congress on coastal issues of common
1-52 concern; and

1-53 (4) propose to the group members' counterparts in
1-54 other Gulf Coast states that they join together with the Texas
1-55 working group to form a permanent Multistate Gulf Coast Legislative
1-56 Working Group to work together and with members of congress from the
1-57 Gulf Coast states on issues of common concern to the Gulf Coast.

1-58 (b) The Texas working group and the appropriate entity in
1-59 each Gulf Coast state that accepts the proposal described in
1-60 Subsection (a)(4) comprise the Multistate Gulf Coast Legislative
1-61 Working Group.

1-62 (c) Once formed, the Multistate Gulf Coast Legislative
1-63 Working Group may adopt whatever name the group determines to be
1-64 most suitable.

