

By: Bonnen

H.B. No. 2387

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the authority of the General Land Office to undertake
3 coastal erosion studies and projects in conjunction with qualified
4 project partners.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Sections 33.603(b), (d), (f), and (h), Natural
7 Resources Code, are amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The studies and projects shall address:

9 (1) assessment of the feasibility, cost, and financing
10 of different methods of avoiding, slowing, or remedying coastal
11 erosion;

12 (2) beneficial placement of dredged material where
13 appropriate to replenish eroded public beach, bay shore, marsh, and
14 dune areas;

15 (3) public beach, bay shore, and marsh nourishment or
16 restoration projects using sediments other than material from
17 navigational or other dredging projects;

18 (4) guidelines on grain size and toxicity level;

19 (5) the economic, natural resource, and other benefits
20 of coastal erosion projects;

21 (6) the protection, revegetation, and restoration of
22 dunes;

23 (7) the planting of vegetation as a means of
24 inhibiting bay shore erosion and projects developing and

1 cultivating disease-resistant vegetation adapted to local
2 conditions;

3 (8) the construction or retrofitting of dams, jetties,
4 groins, and other impoundment structures, provided that the
5 structures include sediment bypassing systems;

6 (9) estimating the quantity and quality of sediment
7 trapped by reservoirs, navigation channels, and placement areas and
8 identification of other sediment sources;

9 (10) the use of hard or soft structures on bay
10 shorelines as a method of avoiding, slowing, or remedying erosion;

11 (11) storm damage mitigation, post-storm damage
12 assessment, and debris removal;

13 (12) [~~7~~ and] removal and relocation of structures from
14 public beaches, including the purchase of property located on a
15 public beach;

16 (13) the acquisition by eminent domain of property
17 necessary for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance,
18 widening, or extension of an erosion response project under this
19 subchapter;

20 (14) [~~12~~] structural shoreline protection projects
21 that use innovative technologies designed or engineered to minimize
22 beach scour; and

23 (15) [~~13~~] other studies or projects the
24 commissioner considers necessary or appropriate to implement this
25 subchapter.

26 (d) Except as provided by Subsections (b)(8) and (14)
27 [~~12~~], this chapter does not authorize the construction or funding

1 of a hard structure on or landward of a public beach.

2 (f) Notwithstanding Subsections (c) and (e), each biennium
3 the commissioner may undertake at least one erosion response
4 [~~large-scale beach nourishment~~] project [~~on a public beach~~] without
5 requiring a qualified project partner to pay a portion of the shared
6 project cost if the total cost of the projects that do not have a
7 cost share requirement [~~project~~] does not exceed one-half
8 [~~one-third~~] of the total amount appropriated to the land office for
9 coastal erosion planning and response.

10 (h) Notwithstanding Subsection (e), the commissioner may
11 determine the percentage of the shared project cost a qualified
12 project partner must pay for a project undertaken pursuant to
13 Subsection (b)(11), (12), or (13) [~~for removal of debris or~~
14 ~~structures, or relocation of structures from the public beach,~~
15 ~~provided, however, that no money in the account may be used for a~~
16 ~~project undertaken pursuant to Subsection (b)(11) to purchase real~~
17 ~~property or reimburse a property owner for the purchase of real~~
18 ~~property~~].

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.