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H.B. No. 1687

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to a study of the feasibility and desirability of creating
3 and maintaining a coastal barrier system.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) The legislature shall establish a joint
6 interim committee to continue to study the feasibility and
7 desirability of creating and maintaining a coastal barrier system
8 in this state that includes a series of gates and barriers to
9 prevent storm surge damage to gulf beaches or coastal ports,
10 industry, or property.

11 (b) The committee is composed of:

12 (1) the members of the standing committee of the
13 senate that has primary jurisdiction over natural resources;

14 (2) the members of the standing committee of the house
15 of representatives that has primary jurisdiction over land and
16 resource management;

17 (3) two members of the senate appointed by the
18 lieutenant governor, each of whom represents a district in a county
19 that borders the Gulf of Mexico; and

20 (4) two members of the house of representatives
21 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, each of
22 whom represents a district in a county that borders the Gulf of
23 Mexico.

24 (c) The lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of

1 representatives shall jointly designate a chair or, alternatively,
2 designate two co-chairs from among the committee membership.

3 (d) The committee may adopt rules necessary to carry out the
4 committee's duties under this section.

5 (e) Not later than December 1, 2016, the committee shall
6 report to the governor and the legislature the findings of the study
7 and any recommendations developed by the committee under this
8 section.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.