BILL ANALYSIS

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Observers note that the Texas Gulf Coast region and its inhabitants remain vulnerable to hurricanes and other damaging weather events and that it is necessary to continue to study the desirability and feasibility of constructing a coastal barrier protection system in order to ensure the safety and viability of the region. S.B. 1082 provides for a joint interim committee to continue to study these issues.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

S.B. 1082 requires the legislature to establish a joint interim committee to continue to study the feasibility and desirability of creating and maintaining a coastal barrier system in Texas that includes a series of gates and barriers to prevent storm surge damage to gulf beaches or coastal ports, industry, or property. The bill provides for the composition of the committee and requires the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of representatives to jointly designate a chair or, alternatively, designate two co-chairs from among the committee membership. The bill authorizes the committee to adopt rules necessary to carry out the committee's duties. The bill requires the committee, not later than December 1, 2020, to report to the governor and the legislature the findings of the study and any recommendations developed by the committee. The committee is abolished and the bill's provisions expire January 11, 2021.

EFFECTIVE DATE

June 1, 2019, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2019.