87R16051 CLE-D

By:  Hunter H.C.R. No. 72

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Closing public beaches during the COVID-19 pandemic proved challenging in coastal communities due to the uncertainty of who determines the boundaries of public beaches, who enforces the law governing access to public beaches, and who has the authority to close access to public beaches during a disaster; and

WHEREAS, Public beaches are a shared responsibility of the state and local governments, and clarifying their jurisdictions would help to ensure that safety protocols are enforced; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby request that the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of representatives create a joint interim committee to study the determination of the boundaries of, and the enforcement of the law governing access to, public beaches and the authority of a county or municipality to close access to public beaches during a disaster; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be governed by such general rules and policies for interim committees as the 87th Texas Legislature may adopt; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee shall submit a full report, including findings and recommendations, to the 88th Texas Legislature in January 2023.