LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 18, 2025

TO: Honorable Cody Harris, Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB1089** by Paul (Relating to creation of the gulf coast protection account to be administered by the General Land Office.), **As Introduced**

The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined because the amounts and timing of any appropriations, gifts, grants, or donations for the new Gulf Coast Protection Account are unknown at this time.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

The bill would amend the Natural Resources Code to create the Gulf Coast Protection Account as a dedicated account in the state treasury inside the General Revenue Fund that would be administered by the General Land Office (GLO). The account would consist of gifts, donations, and grants; and funds appropriated, credited, or transferred by the Legislature.

The bill would require GLO to use the Gulf Coast Protection Account to pay for expenditures that are necessary to fulfill nonfederal sponsor obligations under agreements with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for implementing projects included in the plan recommended by the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study Final Report and Final Environmental Impact Statement dated August 2021 issued by the Galveston district; to comply with the terms of a local cooperation agreement executed by GLO and the Gulf Coast Protection District; for projects that are necessary or useful for the protection of the portion of the gulf coast located within the territory of the Gulf Coast Protection District; or for projects that would benefit the Gulf Coast Protection District and are designated as Coastal Storm Risk Management Projects within the Coastal Texas Study.

Based on information provided by GLO and the Comptroller of Public Accounts, the fiscal impact cannot be determined because the amounts and timing of any appropriations, gifts, grants, or donations for the Gulf Coast Protection Account are unknown at this time.

Based on information provided by GLO and the State Auditor's Office, it is assumed that any costs resulting from implementing the provisions of the the bill could be absorbed using current resources.

This legislation would do one or more of the following: create or recreate a dedicated account in the General Revenue Fund, create or recreate a special or trust fund either in, with, or outside the Treasury, or create a dedicated revenue source. The fund, account, or revenue dedication included in this bill would be subject to funds consolidation review by the current Legislature.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 305 General Land Office and Veterans' Land Board, 308 State

Auditor's Office

LBB Staff: JMc, TUf, MW, JDio