



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Cari Christman, 512-463-0111

### **Lt. Gov. Patrick Reappoints Sen. Taylor as Co-Chair of the Joint Interim Committee to Study a Coastal Barrier System**

Monday, March 10, 2020 - (Austin, TX) Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick reappointed Senator Larry Taylor (R-Friendswood) as Co-Chair of the Joint Interim Committee to Study a Coastal Barrier System (Committee). This will be Senator Taylor's fourth interim as Co-Chair. The Committee was created to study the feasibility of creating and maintaining a coastal barrier system along the Texas Gulf Coast.

*"I look forward to beginning work following up on the Army Corps of Engineers' alternatives to enhance, restore, and sustain the environment, economy, and culture along the Texas coast," said Sen. Taylor. "I feel confident that over the interim we will gather valuable information to bring to the 87th legislature that will ensure our coastal residents and industries continue to thrive."*

The Committee is comprised of the full Senate Natural Resources and Economic Development Committee, the full House Land and Resource Management Committee, and two coastal appointees from each chamber. The legislation, sponsored by Sen. Taylor, directs the Committee to study the feasibility and desirability of creating and maintaining a coastal barrier system that includes a series of gates and barriers to prevent storm surge damage to gulf beaches or coastal ports, industry, or property.

*"The committee will meet later this year in a public hearing to gather information on the status of this initiative and take public testimony," Sen. Taylor said.*

###

*Senator Larry Taylor is a lifelong Texan and Baylor University graduate raised in Friendswood. Before his election to the Texas Senate in 2012, he served five terms in the Texas House of Representatives. Senator Taylor is Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and a member of the Senate Committees on Finance, Higher Education and Water and Rural Affairs. He currently represents portions of Brazoria, Galveston and Harris Counties.*