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LOIS W. KOLKHORST

STATE SENATOR
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2019

Texas Senate Passes Kolkhorst's Hurricane Harvey Legislation

AUSTIN - The Texas Senate has unanimously passed Senate Bill 6, priority Hurricane Harvey recovery legislation authored by Senator Lois W. Kolkhorst (R-Brenham). The legislation was deemed an "emergency item" by Governor Greg Abbott in his State of the State address, and now moves to the Texas House for final consideration.

"During the ongoing legislative session, one of our top missions is to address the loss of life and property from Hurricane Harvey, which severely impacted much of Senate District 18," said Kolkhorst. "Survivors and victims of Harvey must never be forgotten and the best way to pay tribute to them is to unite as Texans helping other Texans, and creating an action plan for the next disaster."

Specifically, Senate Bill 6 will require the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to provide guidance for disaster response and recovery, and establish a wet debris study group to address the problems encountered by many coastal communities in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. Additionally the legislation creates an emergency management work group on credentialing to see that more Texans quickly receive assistance.

"Senate Bill 6 is one of the most important bills the Texas Senate will pass this session," said Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick. "I congratulate Senator Kolkhorst and the entire senate for unanimously passing Senate Bill 6, which is key to our rebuilding effort following Hurricane Harvey and mitigating disasters across the state. Senator Kolkhorst, along with other senators from the impacted areas -- began working on the storm immediately. They were involved on the ground in every effort, dealing with tragic loss and rescue, helping clean up the aftermath and coordinating local efforts. Their commitment to their districts and the people of Texas has been unwavering and the legislation passed today lays out the path to our final recovery from the most damaging storm in state history."

Kolkhorst said that the legislation was written in conjunction with Governor Abbott's Rebuild Texas Commission which is led by Texas A&M Chancellor John Sharp. ###