



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2016

GUILLEN CO-HOSTS RESTORE ACT GRANT WORKSHOP

AUSTIN – On Thursday, Feb. 18th, State Representative Ryan Guillen (D- District 31) co-hosted a workshop to help local governments and businesses apply for RESTORE Act grants.

“Providing funding at the local level after this disaster was a good start,” said Guillen. “Following through and ensuring that the communities can access the funding and use it to rebuild is our task now. This workshop is designed to meet that goal.”

The funding is available through the RESTORE Act, which provided Texas \$56 million for Direct Component grants following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Direct Component grants are competitive, and must be used for projects to restore and protect natural habitats, mitigate damage to fish and wildlife, improve state parks in coastal areas, protect against coastal floods, promote tourism and/or consumption of Gulf Coast seafood, or develop the workforce and create jobs in the coastal region.

In addition to the Direct Component grants, the RESTORE Act provided funding for priority projects identified by the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. Funded priority projects in Texas include \$7 million in Laguna Madre, \$6 million in Matagorda Bay, and \$8 million in Galveston Bay. The Funded Priorities List also included \$29 million for Gulf-wide projects.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will be accepting Direct Component grant applications through April 15, 2016.

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