

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE APRIL 11, 2018

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GUILLEN URGES PORT MANSFIELD ADDED TO HARVEY RECOVERY PLAN

State's Recently Released Plan to Use Harvey Recovery Money Doesn't Include Port Mansfield

AUSTIN - In response to the publication of the General Land Office's (GLO) Action Plan on the use of federal Harvey recovery money, State Representative Ryan Guillen (D - Rural South Texas) urges them to add Port Mansfield as eligible to receive federal relief funds.

"The importance of Port Mansfield cannot be ignored," said Guillen. "The recent damage it has suffered affects the environment and economy of not only Willacy County but all of South Texas, so we must do everything we can to convince the federal government to allocate funds for its recovery."

Since Hurricane Harvey, Representative Guillen has worked tirelessly to acquire resources to aid in his district's recovery. The Port Mansfield harbor and the Mansfield Cut recently experienced significant shoaling, causing the channel to become increasingly hazardous to pass through. Hurricane Harvey caused further shoaling to occur in the channel which is now becoming almost impassable. Guillen continues to work with state and federal authorities to acquire additional resources for the dredging of the port.

Early this week, the GLO published the State of Texas Action Plan for \$5.024 billion in Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding allocated to the state from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Despite calls to action from Rep. Guillen to his federal representatives and the Governor, Port Mansfield does not appear in the Action Plan. Guillen encourages the community to examine the plan and offer feedback during the public comment period. These comments should be submitted by 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 26, 2018 to be considered. The Action Plan can be found on the GLO's homepage.

"Texans, especially South Texans, have always demonstrated their tenacity to recover," said Guillen. "It is a shame that Port Mansfield was not included in the draft Action Plan, but together we can fix this situation and get Port Mansfield the resources it requires."

Serving ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, Ryan Guillen is known for his hard work, fierce independence, and relentless efforts for South Texas families. Recently, Capitol Inside called him a "House Bill Machine," and a "one-person assembly line for



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legislation." Since elected, few other legislators have passed more bills than Guillen. Sign up for updates at ryanguillen.com, facebook.com/representative.guillen, and twitter.com/ryanguillen

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