

By: Dukes

H.B. No. 450

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the designation of a state climatologist.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 4, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 470 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 470. STATE CLIMATOLOGIST

Sec. 470.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "state agency" means a department, commission, board, office, or other agency in the executive branch of state government, including a university system or institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

Sec. 470.002. DESIGNATION OF STATE CLIMATOLOGIST. (a) The governor shall appoint an officer or employee of a state agency as the state climatologist from a list submitted by the speaker of the house of representatives and the lieutenant governor.

(b) To be eligible for designation as the state climatologist, an individual must have:

(1) a graduate degree with specialization in climate studies or a closely related field of study; and

(2) extensive experience in employing climate data for use by legislative, public, and private entities.

(c) Service as the state climatologist by an officer or employee of a state agency is an additional duty of the individual's office or employment.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.