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