

Amend CSSB 279 by inserting the following appropriately numbered article in the bill and renumbering the subsequent articles of the bill accordingly:

ARTICLE ____ . WEATHER MODIFICATION

SECTION __.001. Section 20.001, Agriculture Code, as added by Chapter 376, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 20.001. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that weather modification and control activities may have a significant impact on Texas agriculture. The legislature further finds that the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation [~~Agriculture~~] is the proper state agency to administer grants to political subdivisions for weather modification and control activities.

SECTION __.002. Section 20.002, Agriculture Code, as added by Chapter 376, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 20.002. DEFINITIONS [~~DEFINITION~~]. In this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

(2) "Weather [~~, "weather~~] modification and control" means changing or controlling, or attempting to change or control, by artificial methods the natural development of atmospheric cloud forms or precipitation forms that occur in the troposphere.

SECTION __.003. (a) On the effective date of this article, in accordance with the General Appropriations Act enacted by the 78th Legislature:

(1) all powers, duties, obligations, rights, and contracts of the Department of Agriculture associated with the weather modification and control grant program are transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation;

(2) all authority to fill full-time equivalent positions to administer the weather modification and control grant program and all unspent and unobligated appropriations to and other money held by the Department of Agriculture in connection with the program are transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; and

(3) all files, records, equipment, and other property

of the Department of Agriculture that are used by that agency in connection with the administration of the weather modification and control grant program become the property of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, but remain in the same location unless moved in accordance with the memorandum of understanding adopted under Subsection (b) of this section.

(b) The Department of Agriculture and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt a memorandum of understanding not later than the 30th day after the effective date of this article that provides for the transfer, by that date, of any files, records, equipment, property, and personnel necessary to accomplish the transfer of the weather modification and control grant program from the Department of Agriculture to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.