

By: Wentworth

S.B. No. 1700

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the administration of the weather modification and
3 control grant program.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 20.001, Agriculture Code, as added by
6 Chapter 376, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001,
7 is amended to read as follows:

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

14 SECTION 2. Section 20.002, Agriculture Code, as added by
15 Chapter 376, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001,
16 is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

24 SECTION 3. On the effective date of this Act, in accordance

1 with the General Appropriations Act enacted by the 78th
2 Legislature:

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

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

13 (3) all files, records, equipment, and other property
14 of the Department of Agriculture that are used by that agency in
15 connection with the administration of the weather modification and
16 control grant program become the property of the Texas Department
17 of Licensing and Regulation, but remain in the same location unless
18 moved in accordance with the memorandum of understanding adopted
19 under Section 4 of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. The Department of Agriculture and the Texas
21 Department of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt a memorandum of
22 understanding not later than the 30th day after the effective date
23 of this Act that provides for the transfer, by that date, of any
24 files, records, equipment, property, and personnel necessary to
25 accomplish the transfer of the weather modification and control
26 grant program from the Department of Agriculture to the Texas
27 Department of Licensing and Regulation.

1 SECTION 5. 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, 2003.