

1-1 By: Thompson of Brazoria (Senate Sponsor - Perry) H.B. No. 2759
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 17, 2023;
 1-3 April 18, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Water,
 1-4 Agriculture & Rural Affairs; May 4, 2023, reported favorably by the
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 4, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the establishment of the TexMesonet Hydrometeorology
 1-20 Network and creation of the TexMesonet Advisory Committee.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 16.012(b), Water Code, is amended to
 1-23 read as follows:

1-24 (b) The executive administrator shall:

1-25 (1) determine suitable locations for future water
 1-26 facilities, including reservoir sites;

1-27 (2) determine suitable, cost-effective water supply
 1-28 alternatives on a regional basis, including voluntary means of
 1-29 encouraging aggressive water conservation;

1-30 (3) locate land best suited for irrigation;

1-31 (4) make estimates of the cost of proposed irrigation
 1-32 works and the improvement of reservoir sites;

1-33 (5) examine and survey reservoir sites;

1-34 (6) monitor the effects of fresh water inflows upon
 1-35 the bays and estuaries of Texas;

1-36 (7) monitor instream flows;

1-37 (7-a) monitor hydrometeorological conditions;

1-38 (8) lead a statewide effort, in coordination with
 1-39 federal, state, and local governments, institutions of higher
 1-40 education, and other interested parties, to develop a network for
 1-41 collecting and disseminating water resource-related information
 1-42 that is sufficient to support assessment of ambient water
 1-43 conditions statewide;

1-44 (9) make recommendations for optimizing the
 1-45 efficiency and effectiveness of water resource data collection and
 1-46 dissemination as necessary to ensure that basic water resource data
 1-47 are maintained and available for Texas; and

1-48 (10) make basic data and summary information developed
 1-49 under this subsection accessible to state agencies and other
 1-50 interested persons.

1-51 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 16, Water Code, is amended
 1-52 by adding Section 16.026 to read as follows:

1-53 Sec. 16.026. TEXMESONET HYDROMETEOROLOGY NETWORK;
 1-54 TEXMESONET ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) In this section, "network"
 1-55 means the TexMesonet Hydrometeorology Network.

1-56 (b) The executive administrator shall establish the
 1-57 TexMesonet Hydrometeorology Network to provide a statewide
 1-58 resource for hydrometeorological data and summary information
 1-59 benefiting weather forecasting, flood preparedness, drought
 1-60 monitoring, wildfire management, water resources planning, water
 1-61 conservation, agricultural readiness and productivity, industrial

2-1 readiness, and related business readiness and productivity across
2-2 this state.

2-3 (c) The network shall:

2-4 (1) establish a series of stations throughout this
2-5 state to monitor hydrometeorological conditions;

2-6 (2) coordinate mesoscale, evapotranspiration, and
2-7 soil moisture monitoring efforts in this state by:

2-8 (A) collecting, receiving, analyzing,
2-9 processing, and facilitating access to basic hydrometeorological
2-10 data; and

2-11 (B) developing and disseminating products,
2-12 tools, and summary information related to that data;

2-13 (3) serve as the centralized repository for
2-14 hydrometeorological data in this state; and

2-15 (4) provide appropriate technical assistance related
2-16 to the duties described by Subdivisions (1)-(3).

2-17 (d) The executive administrator may, on behalf of the
2-18 network, enter into:

2-19 (1) any agreement with an individual or a federal,
2-20 state, or local governmental entity to provide site location and
2-21 access for earth observation stations; and

2-22 (2) a partnership with a public or private entity to
2-23 provide additional funding and resources for improved access to and
2-24 development of hydrometeorological data, products, and tools.

2-25 (e) Each state agency or political subdivision of this state
2-26 that collects hydrometeorological information, including public
2-27 institutions of higher education, shall cooperate with the network
2-28 in the development of a coordinated, efficient, and effective
2-29 statewide hydrometeorological data collection and dissemination
2-30 resource.

2-31 (f) The executive administrator may establish the
2-32 TexMesonet Advisory Committee to advise and make recommendations to
2-33 the executive administrator on ensuring data quality and optimizing
2-34 the efficiency and effectiveness of hydrometeorological data
2-35 collection, product development, and dissemination of data and
2-36 information. Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
2-37 size, composition, or duration of the advisory committee. Members
2-38 of the advisory committee serve without compensation but are
2-39 entitled to reimbursement for actual or necessary expenses incurred
2-40 in performing functions as a member of the advisory committee
2-41 subject to any applicable limitation on reimbursement provided by
2-42 the General Appropriations Act. The committee may include members
2-43 representing the following entities or interest groups:

2-44 (1) the office of the state climatologist;

2-45 (2) the National Weather Service;

2-46 (3) existing hydrometeorological networks; and

2-47 (4) other appropriate entities.

2-48 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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