

1 HB229
2 165143-1
3 By Representatives Daniels, Patterson, Williams (P), Black,
4 Morrow, Beech, McCampbell, Rowe, Ledbetter, Whorton (R), Ball,
5 Robinson, Hall and Farley
6 RFD: Education Policy
7 First Read: 10-MAR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: Currently, there is no office of state
9 climatologist in the state.

10 This bill would create the Alabama Office of
11 the State Climatologist within the University of
12 Alabama in Huntsville.

13 This bill would authorize the Alabama Office
14 of the State Climatologist to research and provide
15 information and other services relating to the
16 climate of the state to assist agencies,
17 businesses, and the public on climate matters and
18 economic development.

19
20 A BILL
21 TO BE ENTITLED
22 AN ACT
23

24 To create the Alabama Office of the State
25 Climatologist within the University of Alabama in Huntsville;
26 and to authorize the Alabama Office of the State Climatologist
27 to research and provide information and other services

1 relating to the climate of the state to agencies, businesses,
2 and the public on climate matters and economic development.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. There is created the Alabama Office of
5 the State Climatologist within the University of Alabama in
6 Huntsville. The administration and management of the Office of
7 the State Climatologist shall be under the direction of the
8 State Climatologist, who shall be a qualified faculty member
9 of the University of Alabama in Huntsville appointed by the
10 Governor. The Office of the State Climatologist shall provide
11 weather and climate information to the public and private
12 interests to improve decision making activities that affect
13 the quality of life and economy of the state. The State
14 Climatologist shall operate the office in a manner that meets
15 or exceeds the standards and level of service required for
16 recognition by the American Association of State
17 Climatologists or an appropriate successor organization.

18 Section 2. The Office of the State Climatologist
19 shall do all of the following:

20 (1) Maintain descriptions of and information on the
21 climate of the state, including the atmospheric conditions and
22 levels of precipitation and drought assessments.

23 (2) Publish his or her findings concerning the
24 climate in this state at least quarterly.

25 (3) Provide technical support to economic
26 development projects within the state.

1 Section 3. The Office of the State Climatologist may
2 do any of the following:

3 (1) Investigate, describe, and interpret the
4 characteristics of the weather and climate of the state,
5 including their hazards and limitations.

6 (2) Coordinate with state and federal agencies on
7 matters concerning weather data acquisition, collection,
8 integration, and storage.

9 (3) Monitor federal climate-related activities to
10 assure that the interests of the state are being served.

11 (4) Publish bulletins, circulars, maps, or reports
12 of the results of research and investigations undertaken by
13 the office, and distribute them to state agencies, government
14 officials, industry, and the public.

15 (5) Provide lectures, talks, displays, or exhibits
16 on the climate of the state for the general education of the
17 public.

18 (6) Enter into cooperative arrangements with local,
19 state, and federal government agencies, universities, and
20 businesses engaged in climate-related research and services.

21 Section 4. This act shall become effective on the
22 first day of the third month following its passage and
23 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.