

March 14, 1978

LB 953, 812, 813,  
814, 315

be eligible for them. Two of the areas have already completed their emergency medical service requirement as far as the federal funds are concerned. The appropriation here anticipates one more this year with three remaining and those remaining areas then, the \$185,000 as those remaining areas acquire federal funds will be reduced each of the year so in three years it would no longer be required. The \$185,000 keeps a corps of staff available at each of these agencies so there will be some educational activity being conducted within each of the regions. The other major new program included in the program number one seven-seven is \$48,000 of general fund money which the Department will begin some health data, primarily surveys of hospital discharge information which in turn they anticipate using to identify health needs across the state. Also this will be a continuing level appropriation but there will be additional federal funds eligible to the state in which the appropriations in succeeding years of the general fund money will match the federal funds that will be coming in. Program one seventy-eight is essentially a continuing budget. It's the Bureau for Examining Boards, a variety of the Examining Boards, many of which are involved in sunset legislation. We did make an additional director and clerk, authorized an additional assistant director and a clerk to this agency because of the work load that they have. The next program deals with Community Health Services. This is program five fourteen, on page fifteen. In this case this is the program where a whole variety of inspections are conducted, many of which have some charge. There will be three bills, 812, 813 and 814 which we will be discussing later on this morning or tomorrow which adjusts some of the license fees, rather the correction fees that are charged for some activities. The appropriation bill that was drafted presumes the passage of those three bills and if they do not pass we will have to increase the general fund and decrease the cash fund to allow for those bills not being enacted. Another program is the Developmental Disabilities, five eighty-nine, at the bottom of page fifteen. Again this is essentially a continuation budget for this activity. Page sixteen again, these are continuation of budgets with the exception of program six twenty-one which is Health and Medical Care Administration. The overall purpose of this agency is for planning hospital and medical facilities throughout the state, also for licensing and inspection standards. Included here for example, in the cash funds, is welfare funds for the inspection of nursing homes. However, included in this program specifically with additional language in the intent bill is \$15,984 for general fund money, \$31,900 of federal funds for two health planners and one of their specific assignments then is to review the need for additional veteran's beds that will occur over the next few years and be necessary for the appropriate expenditure of the passage of LB 315 earlier in the session. The next agency is the Fire Marshall's office agency twenty-one, appearing on the top of page seventeen. Included within program one ninety-three was two additional arson investigators. Currently they had a couple of individuals doing part time arson inspections. This is to hire two additional individuals. It was indicated to us that there was substantial increase in the suspected arson cases throughout the state and I think that is true nationally and they were not with current staff able to maintain those investigations in a timely fashion and additional people were needed and were justified. Also included in program one eight-seven is a new appropriation of \$25,000 to the agency which will be utilized

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