

March 24, 1987

LB 661, 661A

result as a court of last resort even though in the process they are limited to accepting, in a sense, the final...final determination by the Special Master if that is not a significant difference from their conclusions and if it is within the final offers that both sides had offered. In addition, it also would permit, of course, to stay with the Special Master even if their findings was outside, but the significant thing is that those CIR decisions would then become the basis for the following two-year adjustment for salaries and so the comparability of...or compatibility, rather, of the state employee salary arrangements with the market that is appropriate for the different organizations is going to be retained, so...and be in eventually. So I would hope the body will advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye...Senator Hall, did you wish to close on it? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 661.

PRESIDENT: LB 661 is advanced. Mr. Clerk, I understand we have an A bill.

CLERK: Mr. President, we do, LB 661A introduced by Senator Warner. (Read title.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I move the bill be advanced. The bill for funding will provide the necessary positions for negotiation with the Chief Negotiator and I believe three assistants together with the clerical staff as well as some start-up cost, total amount. I believe it was about 246,000 the first year and then it will drop down some the second year. I should point out that, whether this bill is passed or not, since the negotiations are, in fact, a necessity, that the budget for the Department of Personnel would had to have been increased in any event so that...by some amount, so the passage of the bill does not create an expense that we would otherwise avoid, but it is exceedingly important that both the state as well as the various units of state employees are well represented with very qualified people because their work needs to be done at a caliber and level that will be necessary in order to make this whole thing work satisfactorily. So I would move the bill be