

March 21, 1988

LB 391, 764A

CLERK: LB 764A was a bill introduced by Senator Warner. (Read title.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this is the A bill, appropriation bill, for LB 764 which was advanced Friday. That was the adjustments in the statute for the distribution of the oil overcharge funds, stripper well funds and the energy in the Exxon funds as we usually describe them. What the appropriation bill will do, it appropriates the unexpended balance that...or in these funds, the total remaining unappropriated in both funds is a total of 18.7 million. A portion of that, however, has been committed from the projects that were reviewed last year and there is a balance of approximately 11.8 million in which there is no grants that are in the process of...and have been approved as of last year. So I would move that the bill be advanced and I might add that, based on the Attorney General's Opinion, which also was the basis for making the adjustments in the existing law, the indication is that, in essence, the money must be appropriated since it is a court ordered function that we could not withhold appropriation, or, if we did, that the courts would probably go ahead and order that process bypassed, or, at least, conceivably they could. In any event, while I'm not really enthused about it, I think that it is necessary that we do the appropriation as it is outlined in the legislation. So I would move the bill be advanced.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? If not, the question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 764A.

PRESIDENT: LB 764A is advanced. LB 391.

CLERK: Mr. President, 391 was a bill introduced by Senator Scofield. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 20 of last year. At that time, it was referred to the Appropriations Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Appropriations Committee.