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LB 789

SENATOR NICHOL: I understand that, but why would not the Governor in his budget and the Appropriations in their budget have some idea that there may be a need for this kind of an expenditure rather than just not including it at all and having an A bill come in on a bill such as yours and perhaps surprise them entirely, is this what happened?

SENATOR GOODRICH: No, because they have a staff down there that keeps track of all A bills and it keeps them posted everyday, you know, everytime they come up with a consideration of dollars to be spent, the staff gets them a brief one sheet summary of what all these bills are so that they can see them coming and they can plan accordingly.

SENATOR NICHOL: So the Appropriations does or does not take this into consideration?

SENATOR GOODRICH: They do, they have to.

SENATOR NICHOL: Then why do you need a separate bill. My point is this, Senator Goodrich, and I don't want to hassle you. I have a great deal of respect and confidence in our Appropriations Committee because those of us who aren't spending every day in it like they are feel that those people do know a heck of a lot more about it than those of us who are outside and then here comes a bill like this that, in my opinion, ought to be at least over in the Appropriations but I don't know why it isn't there.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Well, there is two things. Number one, it could be...this type of legislation could be referred to the Health Committee. Let them have the public hearing on it. Let them advance it to the floor. That is one way we could handle it. That way we would direct it through their process, or since the bill deals with the subject that is the Health and Welfare subject, it usually goes through the Health and Welfare Committee so that the Health and Welfare Committee can see what we are doing in this vein and judge accordingly what we should be doing in other aid type of legislation. So it really is kind of essential that we have both committees informed. Now both committees could deal with substantive language, substantive statutory language but since this is subject matter that deals with health and welfare it usually goes through the Health and Welfare Committee just like this one did and then the fiscal staff keeps the budget committee informed on what we are doing.

SENATOR NICHOL: All right, thank you, Senator Goodrich.