

March 19, 1980

LB 1002

a million dollars in the Old West Regional Commission?

SENATOR WARNER: The first part of your question, I indicated earlier, Senator Lewis, the \$124,000 Council of Government money is a result of legislation that was enacted I think about 1971-72. The funds are used by the Policy Research Office in part for match with some other federal funds. There is a required match and we can use these funds although they are all passed through to local Council of State Governments. The funds have not changed since the original appropriation of \$124,000 (interruption).

SENATOR LEWIS: I guess my question is not on the dollars but these are the local Council of Governments that do enter cooperative agreements?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes.

SENATOR LEWIS: Okay, now I understand what that is. Now on this Old West Regional Commission, that \$541,000 for international marketing program, how is that used in terms of marketing? Is that advertising? Is that travel?

SENATOR WARNER: There is a number of programs I believe included in that. You will recall perhaps two or three years ago now there was a contract entered into, well, I guess that doesn't run through this one though. The Old West Regional does fund some export operations in European countries that are funded with Old West money that is a several state cooperative program. These are a variety of programs that the Old West Regional can use through this office and it is used for just what it says, export marketing may include fairs, display booths. As I understand it, the funds that Nebraska uses here may set up...provide funds for display area. If it is individual companies, they provide their own display so that the products of Nebraska are in a centralized area. A portion of those funds would go for that. A portion goes for travel of state people who have the responsibility of coordinating those kinds of activities, those fairs, or trade fairs, and then others I am sure is direct personal contact by individuals with various foreign governments to promote expansion of export.

SENATOR LEWIS: Let me move on down to program #147, our personal property tax relief fund, that is simply putting in the dollar level as required by 518, is that correct, and has nothing to do with (interruption)?