

May 8, 1981

LB 404

to amend the bill. It is found on page 1614 of the Journal, Request 2347.

SENATOR CLARK: Whose....Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this amendment proposes an amendment which I inquired at the General File discussion whether or not the committee had considered it. What the proposed amendment does is places the Commission in the same role as we enacted legislation affecting the Department of Health, which the Director of the agency would become an appointment by the Governor with the Commission being advisory in nature. I offered the amendment prior because prior to the session I had come to the conclusion that it was probably unlikely that very many Commissions as was proposed in some legislation later withdrawn would be enacted. But it seemed to me that in the future at least that it perhaps was well to maintain a direct line of authority to the elected officials as Commissions are established or as Commissions have major changes made in some of their responsibilities. So what the amendment does is quite long but it does one thing and one thing only despite its length, and that is that it places this agency in the similar role to what was done as far as the organization of the agency is concerned with the Department of Health and the Director would be appointed directly then and the Commission would be advisory. And it is offered purely as a policy issue which seems to me that is a legitimate issue to address and that this perhaps is the more desirable route to go not only in this Commission but any others that are formed hereafter or for that matter any that have significant changes made in their responsibilities or expansion of their responsibilities. I think the average citizen looks to the Governor for complaints and...the office of Governor...and it seems to me that that responsibility for the operation of a variety of these agencies ought to be placed there. This amendment will result in that effect. There will be a second amendment if this one is adopted because of an amendment that was made on the floor to the bill on General File to make that portion consistent with what I am offering now, but other than that there is no need for any other amendment that I am aware of.

SENATOR CLARK: There is an amendment on the desk to the Warner amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Cullan will move to amend the Warner amendment found on page 1614, Section 7, page 7, line 21...(Read the Cullan amendment as found on page 1888 of the Legislative Journal.)