

in the bill in the description of the natural conservancy, or excuse me, the natural heritage program, appears to be virtually identical and I'm not objecting, but it would seem to me that if it is the same program, and I'm not sure if that issue was discussed at the public hearing or not, then it would be appropriate that funding for this would be a part of the bill which obviously would require an A bill. And if it is not the same thing, and we are passing it on the assumption that there is no cost, then I assume when this issue comes before as a budget issue, we just plain disregard, almost disregard the request on the assumption that it can be done without any additional General Fund money and which I seriously doubt. I don't know if Senator Schmit can add any light or some member of the committee as to the potential General Fund cost at some point or, if, in fact, the two are different rather than the same as they appear to be, a budget request for an expansion and the provisions of LB 251.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Was that a question, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes, it was for some enlightenment, if at the hearing there was some indication that if, in fact, these are two different things. They appear to be identical. As a matter of fact...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR WARNER: ...the questions that they have responded to from the Game Commission preliminary to the budget work would appear that they are essentially dealing with the same issues, the same type of property.

SPEAKER BARRETT: About two and a half minutes, Senator Schmit, if you'd like to respond.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, it was my understanding, Senator Warner, that the Game and Parks felt they could handle this out of their cash funds. It would not require an A bill and it was certainly not my understanding that it would be such a momentous task that would require two or three positions. I think that Game and Parks certainly indicated to me that it would be something which could be handled routinely and without a major expenditure. If I am in error, I will check it out and certainly let you know, but I do not believe that it is their intent to spend a substantial amount of money on it. I could be in error, but I