

particular five lines refer to the replacement of the Atkinson Dam which is part of the Game and Parks Commission projects. It was requested in the Game and Parks Commission budget for this year, and was stricken by the Governor before it came to the Appropriations Committee. At the time of the hearing, people from the Atkinson community came to the hearing and testified in favor of reconstructing this dam, and the committee then did put it back in the budget. This dam has been in existence for quite a number of years. It has washed out a couple of times. This is the third time, I think, as a matter of fact, that it has washed out. There has been a plan filed by the Corps of Engineers, and so the study has been made, and the funding, they know how much money is needed to fund it, and I had a letter, copy of a letter from the Governor to the Mayor of Atkinson last summer when he had written requesting approval for that funding, and she said that it would be wise if they could get some help from some of the local agencies. And since that time, the Game and Parks Commission or the NRD has gone on record in support to the tune of \$20,000, so we are getting some local support for that. This is a dam that washed out, I think, about five or six years ago and, like I say, it is part of the Game and Parks Commission project that should be completed this year. It was funded, and then at the time of the budget shortfall, three years ago, the funding was taken away, and now we are asking that it be refunded. I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have about it.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Who else would care to speak to this motion? Senator Warner, thank you. I am going to ask you to raise your hand. I have got a number of lights on here and I am sure you don't want to all talk to this issue. Senator Warner, followed by Senator Lynch.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, I don't quite know if I am arguing as to why it shouldn't be taken out or why it should be put in, but, be as it may, this particular project, as Senator Dierks has indicated now, goes back to 1986, as I recall, was the first time that there were funds put in for the project, and it had been washed out and was creating some problems, and it had been requested prior to that, at least two or three years, and maybe even longer, I do not recall, but it was not funded initially the first time it came in. And one of the reasons that it was not was that it was assumed that maybe fishing revenue, cash funds, could be used because the lake used to be stocked before it was washed or the