

May 8, 1995

LB 241, 429, 459, 483, 732

CLERK: I do, Madam President. Your Committee on Enrollment and Review reports LB 459, LB 732, LB 483 and LB 241 to Select File. Judiciary Committee gives notice of confirmation hearing. That's all that I have, Madam President. (See pages 2027-28 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We will proceed with LB 429.

CLERK: Madam President, 429 was originally introduced by Senator Cudaback. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 17, referred to the Appropriations Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. There are Appropriations Committee amendments pending. (Standing Committee amendment AM1786 is found on page 1889 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you. Senator Wehrbein, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, this, for everyone's information, this is not Senator Cudaback's bill anymore so I will go with... (laugh). I just wanted to get Senator Cudaback off the... This is an Appropriations Committee amendment that creates a clean... the Clean Air Title V Cash Fund in the Department of Environmental Control, of Environmental Quality. This fund would be used to deposit the emission fees charged under the Clean Air Act as adopted in LB 1257 of 1992. Current law allows for the air emission fees to be deposited in Department of Environmental Quality Cash Fund. Because the DEQ Cash Fund is also used to deposit other fees, the agency would have to subaccount for the air quality emission fees. By creating a separate fund to receive the air quality fees, the agency may account for the revenues and expenditures related to the program in a more straightforward manner. DEQ is required under law to submit a report to the Legislature on or before January 1st of each year documenting all direct and indirect program costs and emission fees as assessed. The Appropriations Committee is directed to analyze the report to determine that revenue from the emission fees was used solely to offset appropriate and reasonable costs associated with the air quality permit program. Segregating the revenues and expenditures for the air quality program will assist the agency in the reporting process and the Appropriations Committee in the review process. That, in the essence, is the committee amendments to this bill,