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LB 743A, 743

works. So again, I filed the amendment, takes away the General Fund. It doesn't stop the bill at all. It would just say that there is hereby appropriated six...after...if the amendment is adopted, there is hereby appropriated \$68,074 from the Telephone Solicitation Cash Fund for 2004-2005 to the Public Service Commission for Program 743, for the new program that Senator Smith wants to start. So I just don't think that we need to use General Fund money. We had a great letter from the Governor saying how we need to tighten down and we need to conserve our resources, and yet here we are again expanding government by slightly less than \$100,000. Now again, Senator Smith mentions that if his amendment is adopted that that fiscal note will be less, but his amendment is not adopted, so I'm kind of at a quandary as to what to do. Should we...should we take out the General Fund money here, or should we wait to see if Senator Smith's amendment is adopted? But again, I think the better course of action is to simply lay this bill over till next year. The federal government's program comes on-line in July for the FTC-controlled companies, and in September for the FCC-controlled companies. And again, I think that if we just lay this over until next year, like my bracket motion on the underlying bill says, just lay it over till next January and let's find out if, indeed, the federal government's program works. Now I understand that Senator Smith is...has advocated for a delayed effective date and he's willing to delay the effective date of LB 743 until, I believe, it's August of next year. Well, what happens if we come back and we adopt Senator Smith's bill, we adopt the delayed effective date, and yet then we find out that the federal government is...program is working? So then what we'd have to do is we'd have to introduce another bill. Someone would have to prioritize it, because you remember that next year is the short session, and it just doesn't make sense. It's inefficient. It just doesn't make sense at all. But then again, I don't believe the bill makes sense either because it's duplicating a federal program. So those are my reasons. The federal government is going to have this program in effect this year. The AG's Office already does, provides a mechanism to stop these calls. Numerous states have abandoned this effort because they realize that the federal government's program will work, or at least they think it will. Again, mine is a simple amendment. Just simply does not stop the bill. It