

March 21, 1973

(Start Belt #6)

you as an observer. Now then, Senator Keyes and then we have scheduled next to speak yet, Senator Keyes, Clark, Moylan, Simpson, Stahmer, Fred Carstens and Syas on the motion regarding L.B. 13. The Chair recognizes Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Yes, Mr. President, I'd, very short. I want to ask Senator Marvel a question.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marvel, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Marvel, the highway--Mr. Kruger is directly under the control of the Governor of this State, is that right, he and his department? Pretty much so.

SENATOR MARVEL: Well, it's not only an obvious fact as far as organization is concerned, but it's an obvious fact when you try to get any information out of them at a budget hearing.

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Marvel; in the budget bill that's submitted by the Governor, is there money in there for what Senator Kennedy says, 31 or what the Governor says in his letter here 28 and so forth? How many men are we adding to the force this year--in drugs?

SENATOR MARVEL: Didn't know they were adding anybody to drugs in the, in the Patrol budget, the specific item we're talking about now that was in his veto letter, has to do with Federal funds, this \$284,000 is strictly Federal funds. It would add, if they got this money and I understand they put in for it, it would add a chemist, a criminologist and 6 troopers. I understand that these people basically work in a special crime investigation unit which is not directly connected with drugs so I think in a way it's unfair to try to tie the Federal funds to the drug investigation. Now I'm not sure this answers your question. Well, if there are, there is also a request for additional troopers in the Patrol budget, as I recall, 10, these are for those on the highway.

SENATOR KEYES: In other words, then we are actually going to add some to the Patrol this year in various stages of it.

SENATOR MARVEL: There will be some added but specifically, in, Senator Schmit, maybe you can help me here, but in the drug area I think there, I think this is where they're weak and one of our tr--that's why I have been supporting these bills which may go against my fiscal character at times but I think you got to be selective and that's what I try to be. We tried desperately in that committee time after time, hour after hour, to get information out of the head of the Patrol as to whether they had adequate people in this area or not and I think that's a legitimate question. We were not trying to embarrass anybody. The purpose of a public hearing is to get information. We couldn't get one iota of information. I'll give you one example if I might. We even, we even tried to get information out of the head of the Patrol as to whether, how much, in his opinion, how many people we needed in this area. I think it was a sincere attempt. We tried the direct approach, it didn't work so we finally said well, let's put it this way, Colonel Kruger, if you were Governor of this State, how many people would you recommend in this area of drug administration. His answer was, I am not Governor and I don't intend to run for the office. Now what would you do if you're confronted with this kind of an approach, trying to sincerely gather information and this is the position we were in.