

February 28, 1980

LB 790A, 773A

SPEAKER MARVEL: Record. Hold it. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 11 nays on the motion to advance, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion carries. The bill advances. 773A.

CLERK: LB 773A was introduced by Senators Koch and George. (Read title to LB 773A.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: 773A. Did you read the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: I did.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, 773, if you remember the bill was discussed recently, establishes a coordinating group working in the area of Special Education. It includes the Department of Welfare, Public Institutions, Department of Education, and several other agencies which deliver services to people who have handicapping conditions, and as I advised you the other day, we have had this Council for some time, however, it never functioned. What we are attempting to do is to now bring about an accountable system of these agencies, who they serve, to what degree they serve them and the amount of monies that are being utilized in that service. This will provide the body an audit and a review of the agencies, try to get rid of some duplication and to establish in law the responsibilities of each of the agencies as it relates to the subject of delivering care and service to handicapped people, and the A bill they were asking for is thirty some thousand dollars, I guess, to carry out the operation of the Council and submit their plans to the Legislature, to the Education Committee, to the Appropriations Committee and to the Governor, and I ask for the advancement of LB 773A.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Just one short word, and I think Senator Koch has explained it. 773A creates a new fund, a new Department of Education Coordinating Council for the handicapped, and it is going to take \$32,500 out of the General Fund, which will add to the spending of this Legislature. If it's been proceeding in the past, as Senator Koch has said, if we have going on in the past and handling the job, I don't know why we need to take \$32,500 out of the General Fund to set this committee working. Thank you.