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SUGGESTED STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE CLYDE LEE AT THE TIME OF HOUSE VOTE ON
SENATE BILL 57 EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE ILLINOIS COMMISSION ON THE NEW YORK
WORLD'S FAIR AND PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SECOND SEASON OF THE FAIR

I hope that all of the members of the House have had the opportunity to look over the report of the Commission which was sent to you just before this Assembly convened in January. The report documents in detail the outstanding success of the Illinois "Land of Lincoln" Pavilion at the World's Fair.

The fact that 3 million persons visited the Illinois Pavilion, that more than 1 million tourism brochures were distributed, and that more than 100,000 families interested in visiting Illinois are now in contact with various regional tourism councils throughout the state, all substantiate our ranking as the most successful state pavilion at the Fair.

News stories and editorials throughout the state have praised this project. Most recently both of our newspapers in Springfield have called for the prompt passage of this bill, stating that the Pavilion has been the best means of boosting tourism that we have yet undertaken.

The amount of the appropriation requested (\$657,000) is based on the experiences of our first season and, in fact, reflects a reduction in the operating expenses. That total has been carefully analyzed and includes the very minimum needed to operate efficiently through 1965 without broadening the scope of the project.

As you may have noted, this bill has bipartisan support. The bill was introduced by Senator George Drach and co-sponsored by Senators Bidwill, McGloin, and Dixon. The Senate Appropriations Committee gave a unanimous "do pass" vote for the bill and the Senate sent it to us with a 47-1 vote. The House Appropriations Committee has recommended "do pass" without a nay vote.

I ask that all members of the House join me in affirming our support of the project by voting aye on Senate Bill 57.

JACassin/lmr
2/23/65

RESPONSE BY REPRESENTATIVE CLYDE LEE TO POSSIBLE OBJECTION FROM THE REPUBLICAN
SIDE THAT THE \$25,000 IN THE APPROPRIATION TO BUILD AN INFORMATION BOOTH AT
DISNEYLAND AND STAFF IT FOR 1965 BE REMOVED FROM THE APPROPRIATION

The opportunity to have a State of Illinois Travel Information Booth at Disneyland is one of the great bonuses to the World's Fair project. In our close dealings with Walt Disney we have been able to obtain without charge the use of space in connection with a Lincoln show to be built at Disneyland the end of this summer.

Because the Disney organization has worked directly with the World's Fair Commission, and because the World's Fair Pavilion is technically his client, we feel it necessary to maintain that relationship until the Disneyland information center is in operation. It is a matter of efficiency and economy that this phase of the project not be turned over to another state agency until it is a "going business."

The World's Fair Commission has no intention of prolonging its life through the Disneyland information booth, but rather is anxious to turn it over to the Division of Tourism as soon as practical. The \$25,000 figure is based on approximately \$10,000 for the construction of the displays and the booth, and \$15,000 for the estimated cost of the payroll for three information guides working shifts during the 15-hour day at Disneyland during the peak of their season.

It is our concern that a change in our present contacts with the Disney organization might forfeit this rare opportunity, and we ask that the World's Fair Commission be provided the funds to insure the installation of the information booth.

JACassia/lux
2/23/65