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April 13, 1956

To Raymond C. Mudge, Finance Commissioner Re: Lapsing of Park Appropriation

You have requested a written opinion from this office confirming a prior oral opinion given by the Attorney General to the Governor and Council.

Some time ago the Governor and Council had before them a council order authorizing the State Park Commission to adver-tise for bids for certain improvements at Reid State Park. The money to pay for these improvements was to be taken from the balance of the appropriation made in behalf of Reid State Park by Chapter 117 of the Resolves of 1953. The date of this council order was subsequent to June 30, 1955.

It was the opinion of the Attorney General that, in view of the last sentence of Chapter 117, supra, which is as follows:

> "Any balances at June 30, 1954, shall be carried forward to the 1954-1955 fiscal year, but all unencumbered appropriation balances shall lapse June 30, 1955."

the Resolve stood alone and the money lapsed on June 30, 1955, if any balance then left over was not encumbered within the meaning of that term.

It was apparent from the face of the council order that there was no legal contract or other legal encumbrance which would warrant a further carrying of this balance.

> Roger A. Putnam Assistant Attorney General

RAP:C