

Seek More State Funds, Medical College Urged

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Sen. King Says State Will Have Extra Money From \$290 Million Bond Issue

The Toledo State College of Medicine was urged yesterday to seek more money from the state to meet its construction costs.

State Sen. Frank King (D., Toledo) suggested to the finance committee of the board of trustees that extra money might be available in the \$290 million state bond issue, approved by the voters in May. The medical school has been allocated \$7.5 million from the bond issue.

Senator King said a number of projects for which money in the bond issue is earmarked never will be carried out. One of these dead projects is the Lake Erie water pipeline for northwestern Ohio, and some of the \$20 million allocated to the pipeline could well be diverted to the medical school, he added.

W. W. Knight, Jr., chairman of the finance committee, said he is worried about the time element involved in a reallocation of funds. He noted that the medical school must have a dean, a secure financial base, and approval of the Association of American Medical Colleges before it can apply for federal funds, which are counted on to meet most of the construction costs.

Matching Money

John Skipton, acting chairman of the board, said the trustees have voted to ask the Lucas County Hospital Commission for \$7.5 million to match the state's contribution. The money would come from a county-wide bond issue which county commissioners are considering for the November election.

Mr. Skipton said it is too late to withdraw the medical school request for sharing in the proposed bond issue, but if more money should be forthcoming from the state, it would not be necessary for the medical school to spend all the money earmarked for it in the bond issue.

Senator King said it would be difficult to get \$7.5 million more out of the state bond issue (making a total of \$15 million), but a smaller amount might be obtained. The difference between whatever extra the state contributed and \$7.5 million could be obtained in a local bond issue, he said.

Senator King said he is undecided as to whether he will support \$7.5 million for the medical school in a local bond issue, but said he would support a smaller amount.

Taxpayer Bargain

Bernard Baker, trustee, said the medical school offers local taxpayers a bargain. The \$7.5 million to be raised locally will all be spent for a 500-bed teaching hospital.

Of this, Mr. Baker estimated about 400 beds would be available for local use. If the medical school builds the facility, the Federal Government will pay two-thirds of the cost, but if local hospitals build the facility, the U.S. will pay only one-third, he said.

Senator King said he believes that if the man in the street is informed about the facts and the real need for the bond issue, he will support it.

The Toledo senator added that he feels sure that the Ohio Senate would agree to give the medical school a bigger slice of the \$290 million state bond issue. He said he does not know what the House would do, but he predicted House approval if Governor Rhodes backs the idea.