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Clements: Justice already decided on funding issue

Friday, October 21, 1988

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Bill Clements, during a speech urging approval of a constitutional amendment to keep school funding a legislative issue, Thursday suggested that a Supreme Court justice already has made up his mind on the

The justice, Oscar Mauzy, angrily branded the governor's allegation as 'outrageous, totally irresponsible."

The charge came during an appearance by Clements before the Texas Association of Taxpayers, where he continued criticizing a state district court ruling that found the state's system of funding public schools unconstitutional.

Clements warned that he will keep the 1989 Legislature in session for as long as it takes to win passage of a proposed constitutional amendment that would guarantee legislative, not court, jurisdic-

tion over public school funding. Ruling on a suit filed by 67 school districts with low property values, Judge know it today," he said.

AUSTIN (AP) — Heat from the battle

for the White House scorched the

statehouse Thursday as Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby said Gov. Bill Clements and

other Republicans have distorted the record of Democratic presidential hopeful

Speaking to reporters during a break in the Legislative Budget Board meeting, Hobby described Clements' criticism of

the prison furlough program in Dukakis'

homestate of Massachusetts, as "intel-

Clements, co-chair of the state cam-paign to elect George Bush president, and other Republicans have sharply at-

tacked Dukakis on an incident in which a

convicted murderer was allowed a week-

The inmate escaped while on furlough

and later raped a woman and attacked her

have prison furlough programs, that the

end pass from a Massachusetts prison.

Michael Dukakis.

lectually dishonest.

Presidential battle

heats on furloughs

tutional because it doesn't ensure that each school district has the same ability to obtain money to educate students.

The state is appealing the case, which

The case has yet to reach the Texas Supreme Court.

"And I know what that opinion will be. It'll uphold Judge Clark. And it will destroy, literally destroy, the public school system in the state of Texas as we

law allowing the inmate on furlough was

in place before he took office as gover-

nor and that the law was tightened under

Hobby, a Democrat, said Clements should do his homework better on the

Texas prison furlough system before crit-

convicted of murder or voluntary man-

slaughter, have been furloughed in Texas since 1987, according to reports.

On Wednesday, Clements denied re-

sponsibility for the Texas program and

blamed it on the bureaucracy within the

The program is under the control and under the jurisdiction of TDC, Clements

said. "That's what the legislation says,"

Clements said. "I don't have any direct control over it. I did not know what was

going on. I don't share any responsibility for it."

Texas Department of Corrections.

About 5,000 felons, including 517

his administration.

icizing other programs.

Harley Clark said the system is unconsti-

is currently pending before the Austin-based 3rd Court of Appeals.

Clements, a Republican, told the taxpayers association he thinks Mauzy, a Democrat, already had made up his mind

"I would bet you money here this morning that opinion is already written in anticipation of it getting to the Su-preme Court. And Oscar Mauzy already has an opinion written," Clements

Mauzy said the charge was unfounded and challenged Clements to prove it be-fore the State Commission on Judicial Conduct. The justice said he would gladly seek a public hearing on the gov-

> "I will demand an immediate public hearing under oath where Gov. Clements can come forward with his proof and I'll come forward with mine," Mauzy said.

Referring to Clements' 1987 admission that he had known of illegal payments to Southern Methodist University football players, Mauzy said, "In stand Gov. Clements did not he hand on the Bible at the time head this morning. Therefore, I think the ple of Texas ought to follow his and never believe him if he ham by hand on the Bible."

During his speech, Clements said convinced that Judge Clark's nin upheld on appeal, would disma 1,100 local school districts and them with about a half dozen"

Customs will tre new inspection on U.S. border

BROWNSVILLE (AP)— Customs agencies on both sides of the border will try out a new method of inspecting trucks from a "maquiladora" operation before they leave the plant, to avoid delays in the plant, the plant is the plant in the plant is the plant is the plant in the plant is the plant in the plant is the plant in the plant is the plant is the plant in the plant is the pl crossing the Rio Grande, officials said. The plan hinges on tightened security

at the TRICO Technologies Corp. plant in the border city of Matamoros, Mexico, and the sealing of trucks going to Macias said. "And, as long and and from Mexico after inspection at the officials seal that truck at the manufacturing facility

Although the 90-day trial plan calls for be opened and the shipment allowing TRICO's sealed trucks to cross tinue on to its destination." the bridge without inspection, customs agencies on both sides of the border reserved the right to search the trucks any time they wish, said Fernando Macias, U.S. Customs port director at

In the battle against illegal drugs and other contraband, U.S. Customs has a mandate to thoroughly search 35 percent of all loaded trucks that come across the bridge, Macias said.

"That means unloading every piece, every cardboard and inspecting and examining every section, every piece of merchandise," Macias said. "That means unloading every piece, that they are free of any dugate band and that they will say a across the border," said at TRICO vice president and gent ager of the Matamoros plant.

agreement we have just signed cause of the previous qua have both met, merit the 100 trust of Mexican and U.S. Ca Macias said. "And, as long as to will not be touched and the true

The maquiladora or twin plants involves sending unassembled to nents to a Mexican plant where the ucts are put together using i Mexican labor and then ship

Mexico, are sealed before

Jury finding costs Hunt \$17 million

NEW YORK (AP) — Texas businessman Lamar Hunt paid \$17 million to Peru's state-owned mineral company Thursday to settle his part of a jury finding that he and two of his brothers plotted to corner the world sil-

The settlement was approved by U.S. District Judge Morris E. Lasker, who presided over the nearly seven-month civil trial in Manhattan of Hunt, 56, and his brothers, Nelson Bunker Hunt, 62, and William Her-

The brothers, all from Dallas and sons of the late oil billionaire H.L. Hunt, were sued by Minpeco S.A., the Peruvian minerals concern.

of the Kansas City Chiefs of the National Football

His attorney, Paul Curran, told Lasker that Hunt was settling the matter because he wanted to put an end io the heavy legal and emotional costs of the litigation.

Hunt's Kansas City, Mo., office issued a statement saying "\$17 million is a small fraction of the liabilities possible under the judgment, interest and on-going costs inherent in continuing the legal action.'

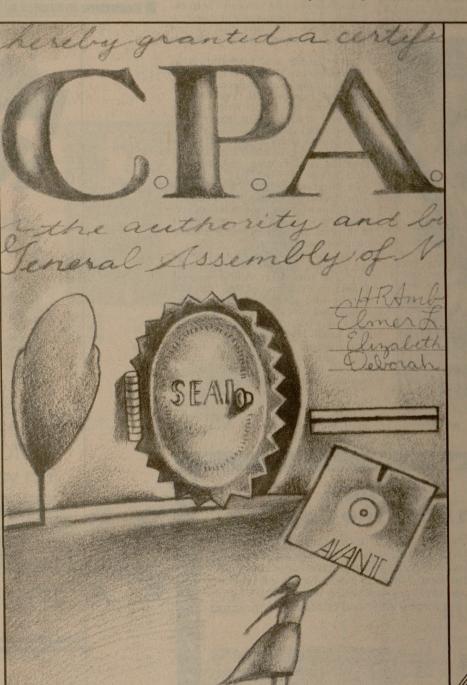
But Curran maintained the settlement did not alter Hunt's contention that he had done nothing wrong. Hunt's statement said, "In spite of the fact that the claims against me were totally unwarranted, because The settlement only concerned Lamar Hunt, owner of the uncertainties of litigation and the substantial cost associated with further proceedings, I made the business decision to put the litigation behind me so that I can spend my time pursuing positive busine

A lawyer representing some 17,000 investorare suing the Hunts and others in two largeds suits complained to Lasker about certain aspe

The lawyer, Herbert Deutsch, noted that in settlement, the Minpeco verdict against last could not be used in the class action lawsuit allegations would have to be proven all our effect, making over 6 months of trial a nulliy.

But Lasker said he was pleased to approve tlement.

"I always believe settlement is better that tion by other means," he said.



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