

BOARD ASKS FULL
GREMILLION REPORT

The State Board of Ethics today rejected Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion's request for an advisory opinion about his associations with the Louisiana Loan and Thrift Co. of New Orleans until he makes a full disclosure of his activities with the firm.

Gremillion, who received a \$10,000 fee and \$150,000 in loans from the financially troubled company, said after the board's announcement that he will file a supplementary request with the board.

Meanwhile, the director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission said today the MCC will take formal action soon in the controversy.

AARON M. KOHN, MCC MANAGING director, said the commission has received numerous complaints from the

public about Gremillion's involvement with LL&T, which is now in receivership before a federal bankruptcy referee.

Kohn would not say just what form the action will take, but said the MCC will announce its plans in a couple of days.

In Baton Rouge, the Board of Ethics met behind closed doors this morning, then announced it would not consider Gremillion's request unless a full disclosure is made.

CONTENTS OF GREMILLION'S request were not revealed, but in advisory cases the board can act only on information supplied it by the person requesting the ruling.

After its meeting, the board issued the following statement:

"The Board of Ethics for State Elected Officials met and considered the request for an advisory opinion from the attorney general in regard to his relationships with the Louisiana Loan and Thrift Corp.

"THE BOARD DECLINED to act on the request, as it considered it to be limited in scope and possibly not reflecting all of his transactions with said company.

"The board agreed to consider the matter further if the attorney general should choose to revise and broaden his request for an advisory opinion and assure the board that it included his entire relationship with that company."

In reply, Gremillion said, "With reference to the order of the Louisiana Board of Ethics for State Elected Officials of today concerning my request for an advisory opinion, it was my intention at all times to make a full disclosure, and I had awaited advice as to the procedure to do so.

"I shall within a week submit to you a supplemental request for an advisory opinion in affidavit form based upon all of the facts.

"I WOULD APPRECIATE the board allowing me this time to furnish the board with all of the evidence necessary for consideration of such advisory opinion."

Today's meeting of the board of ethics was hastily called by Secretary W. W. McDougall.

Board members are Charles Duchain of Baton Rouge, Vinson Mouser of Columbia and Murray Hudson of Monroe.

McDougall said he was unable to release the letter requesting the advisory opinion submitted by the attorney general.

Under the law, the board may not initiate its own investigations. When advisory opinions are sought, conclusions are reached on the basis of the question asked and information supplied by the person making the request.

THE BOARD MAY CONDUCT an investigation if a charge is filed before it, but none has been filed concerning Gremillion and LL&T.

The attorney general acknowledged to the States-Item that he had received the \$10,000 fee for legal services which he said were rendered prior to the company's opening its doors for business in early 1966. He said he completed his work for the company in early 1966. He said he was helping the company get organized at the request of Rep. Salvador Anzelmo and William Glennon, attorneys for the firm.

The company has filed for reorganization in federal bankruptcy court this year.

Gremillion said he had no further interest in the firm after it opened, but it has been learned that he was instrumental in initiating his own opinion declaring it a bank, attended a board meeting and was active in trying to help LL&T gain banking status during 1966.