

MINUTES

REDISTRICTING ADVISORY GROUP

March 15, 2010
Room 142-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Michael O'Neal, Chairperson
Senator Stephen Morris, Vice-chairperson
Senator Anthony Hensley
Senator John Vratil
Representative Ray Merrick

Member Absent

Representative Mike Peterson

Staff Present

Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Connie Burns, Committee Assistant

Others Attending

See attached list.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Michael O'Neal at 4:14 p.m. The Chairperson stated this meeting was a rescheduled meeting from February 3, 2010.

The Chairperson asked Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department (KLRD), to update the Advisory Group members.

Mr. Carnahan stated that there were two decision points for recommendation that the Advisory Group needed to take action on.

Decision Point 1 – As a Final Recommendation, Should Staff Plan for a Centralized Database or a Decentralized Database?

A centralized database is where both the plans and data are stored on a central server. When a computer is accessed anywhere in the Statehouse, all the data regardless of where it is pulled from is all the same; caucus staff and KLRD staff would be provided laptops rather than desktops; this would allow for plugging the laptop into any network connection in the Statehouse and pull the data, work on and save the plans on one server. A recommendation for a centralized data base would probably be the best balance between cost and security.

Senator Morris moved to recommend a centralized database with the option of portability. Senator Vratil seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Decision Point 2 – What, If Any, Voter Registration and Election Data Should Be Included in the Redistricting Database?

Mr. Carnahan stated in the last two cycles election data has been used from the years ending in 8 and 0, this would include voter registration and election turnout data by party. The decision point would be whether or not to include this information in the database.

The Chairperson stated that this information came with a high cost to input and was not essential to drawing the maps.

The Advisory Group requested the cost of imputing the data and the disadvantages of not providing the data. The cost would be one staff members' time for approximately four to six months. Also, a potential disadvantage would be if a legislator requested the data, KLRD would likely still have to put together and provide data.

Representative Merrick moved to do without the information. Representative O'Neal seconded the motion. The Chairperson asked for further discussion.

Senator Vratil made a substitute motion to have the voter registration and election data of voter turnout information be loaded in the database and be available for the legislative members. Senator Morris seconded the substitute motion. The motion carried.

Chairperson O'Neal and Representative Merrick asked to be recorded as voting no.

The Advisory Group requested information on a time line and what the next steps the Advisory Group would need to take. Mr. Carnahan stated that KLRD would move forward on future planning and provide clarification on when town hall meetings would start, including appointments for the standing committees and interim committee. Mr. Carnahan will look at the time line from 10 years ago and will send an update via email.

The Advisory Group meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Prepared by Connie Burns
Edited by Corey Carnahan

Approved by the Advisory Group on:

June 2, 2010

(Date)