

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT
AND THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Michael R. O'Neal at 7:45 a.m. on March 8, 2001 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: All present

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Department
Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research Department
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisors of Statutes Office
Cindy O'Neal, Committee Secretary, House
Debby Fleming, Committee Secretary, Senate

Conferees appearing before the committee:

None

Others attending:

See attached guest list

Chairmen Michael O'Neal and David Adkins presided over the meeting and gave opening remarks which stressed the following:

- The Committee should recognize the demographic shifts that are occurring and do its best to provide plans that will not only satisfy political needs but also stand court scrutiny
- The committee was selected on geography balance
- The committee will be the ambassadors of the final plan and it will be the Committee's responsibility to sell the plan to the respective caucus

Mary Galligan, Principal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department gave an overview of the redistricting process with the aid of several handouts. She explained that in 1998 the Legislative Coordinating Council appointed a six-member Redistricting Advisory Group with an extended life span and charge to make preparations for redistricting activities that will occur this summer and next session. The current members are: Senator Dave Kerr, Chair, Representative Michael O'Neal, Vice Chair, Senators David Adkins and Anthony Hensley, and Representatives John Ballou and Troy Findley.

The Advisory Group recommended: (Attachment 1)

- 1) Leadership appoint two standing committees
- 2) Have the standing committees be a joint committee to serve as a special interim committee to draw maps and be ready to pre file redistricting bills by the start of the 2002 Legislative Session.

Ms. Galligan provided the committee with a tentative schedule for redistricting (Attachment 2).

She introduced research staff and the revisors all of whom are nonpartisan:

Kathie Sparks, general research,
Ken Hughes, technical support
Sandy Sadowski, software testing and security policy and procedures
LuAnn Lawson, trainer and support
Joseph Wedeking, trainer and support-
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Bob Nugent, Revisor of Statutes

She then introduced the caucus staff which will support their respective caucus:

Rob Mealy, Republican, Senate
Tim Graham, Democrat, Senate
Duane Simpson and Jeff Glendening, Republican, House
John Polzar, Democrat, House

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Ms. Galligan explained the maps will be drawn on computers and therefore there will be a lot of computer support. Each caucus will have a dedicated computer in addition to the two research staff computers to draw maps. Both research and caucus staff will be working together. She stressed that all map drawing is confidential.

A key to the process of redistricting, should there be a challenge in court, is security and integrity of the database. It is important that maps should be created using the same programs and the same population figures from the census and from the Secretary of States' Office.

Congressional numbers will be unadjusted Census results and should be available to the committee to start redistricting in early May. The numbers for the Legislative districts should be provided by the Secretary of State at the end of July.

Mary Torrence provided the committee with a memo dealing with the legal requirements for redistricting (Attachment 3). In addition, the 1992 Guidelines for Redistricting for both the Legislative and Congressional districts were provided (Attachment 4)

The Legislative districts should not deviate more than 10% from the ideal district population. The state's population figures for legislative redistricting are adjusted to reallocate the military and students that live in state and remove those who live out of state.

The most important factors regarding Congressional districts are that the districts be as nearly equal in population as possible, must use the federal census, which can't be adjusted by the state, and the voting rights act must be complied with.

Kathie Sparks informed the committee that during the last redistricting there were eight public hearings at various locations across the state (Attachment 5). She suggested that the committee decide if they want to do the hearings and if so what cities and when would they like to hold the hearings.

The Chairs commented that they would like to hold public hearings and decide the locations, dates, and times and would then inform the committee of these decisions at a later date.

The committee was also provided a Net Undercount for the United States and some States (Attachment 6), Kansas Redistricting Basics (Attachment 7), and a map showing the change in population between 1990 and 1999 at township level (Attachment 8 is a reduced version of the original map which can be found in the hard copy of the original minutes of the 2001 House Select Committee on Redistricting which are filed with Legislative Administrative Services).

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.