

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator David Adkins at 4:30 p.m. on March 28, 2002 in Room 235-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Sandy Sadowski, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Judy Swanson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Dwayne Umbarger
Senator Jim Barone
Senator Robert Tyson
Senator John Vratil

Others attending:

See attached guest list

Senator Hensley stated that the only version of a reapportionment map that had proper technical review was the one he had distributed to Senators on the Floor of the Senate, Senate Plan 21AA. (Attachment 1)

Senator Hensley moved to amend Senate Plan 21AA into SB256 and report favorable for passage.
Senator Huelskamp seconded the motion.

Discussion followed__

Senator Huelskamp said his district had been 4.9% over, but in this proposal that had been lowered. Senator Teichman was concerned about the distance she has to travel to cover her district. Senators Corbin, Allen, Haley, Jenkins, Pugh and Huelskamp said that they had no objections to Plan 21AA.

Senator Schmidt said there had been a great deal of give and take in this process, and that the 15th District going into Franklin County gave him nine counties to represent. He questioned the necessity of this move.

In response to Senator Jenkins' question, Chairman Adkins stated that the two issues of greatest importance which had not been resolved were the Southeast Kansas area represented by Senators Umbarger and Barone and extension of the 11th Senate district south as requested by Senator Vratil.

Senator Hensley said Barone did not like the way his district was drawn in the plan originally passed by the Senate, but he voted for it anyway. Jenkins questioned why Senator Barone would not want to retain 100% of his current district.

Senator Allen said she had an issue with her district as included in Senate Plan 12 and has visited with Senator O'Connor about it.

Senator Umbarger addressed the Committee and said he thought Senator Barone should be satisfied if he retained his entire district. He presented a proposal for his district. (Attachment 2)

Senator Barone responded to Senator Umbarger by saying that as few counties as possible should be split.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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He pointed out that no one ever testified that Crawford County should be split. He said his objection to keeping his current district was that he felt it did not treat constituents fairly. He said Cherokee is already split, but Columbus is a neutral territory.

Senator Tyson said it is harder to split a county with one population center. He did not want to lose any more of Anderson County.

Senators Pugh and Hensley stated they felt many concessions had been made.

Senator Umbarger said he met with Senator Barone earlier in the week and agreed to changes, but he did not agree to the whole map because he did not know what ramifications to the entire state would be. He said the map was drawn to put someone out of Barone's district into his district, and that was all about politics, not redistricting.

Senator Vratil said that he has heard no reason why his district should not be extended to 167th Street. Senator Hensley said that the charge was to take people out of Vratil's district and they did that.

A vote was taken on Senator Hensley's motion, and the motion passed.

Chairman Adkins stated there is a bill containing a congressional map on the Floor of the Senate, and it was up to leadership to determine when that bill would be debated.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.