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FLOOR DEBATE

January 10, 2001 LR 7

can't have this wild deviation all over the state. If you keep the deviation small, all or nearly all the districts could deviate to some extent and that's how they do it in Iowa. The in-house policy is to keep all of the districts below one percent. That way there's never any danger of violating the provision. This legislation was passed in 1980, so this is Iowa's third round of redistricting with that provision on the books. He indicated, this Gary Rudicil did, that Iowa has no problems with it to date. He did note, however, and I need to tell you this, that a problem might arise some day in the future if Iowa needed to create a majority/minority district. And in that case he said Iowa would probably have to create the district first and see how much of that variance it used up and then the other districts would have to be done in a way that they wouldn't exceed that limit. I just throw this out here for your consideration. I think it's a way of saying to ourselves we don't want to vary unless we have to. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Debate on the Schimek amendment? Senator Schimek, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. President and members, this is a rather complicated proposition and I don't feel like it's ready to come to a vote yet. I would just like to say that I think it's...it is a...it is an idea that is worthy of consideration. I don't believe that it's gotten enough consideration to this point so, Mr. Clerk, I think I am going to also withdraw this amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is withdrawn.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the resolution, at this time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Further debate on LR 7? Senator Coordsen, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. LR 7 is a proposal to this body that the Redistricting Committee that we created yesterday would follow these guidelines in creating all of the districts that we must, by law, do before a year prior to the next general election. I