

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 22, 2001

LB 852

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President and members of the body, I stood up in support of this when we voted on it a while ago, and I'm going to stick with it because, like I said before, it does condense my district and a lot less miles for me to travel. And Highway 61 is a straight, pretty straight line up there, I realize that; but it does split four precincts so the county is going to have to make adjustments on that. And so with the way it is now, it does follow precinct lines so that the county wouldn't have to do any more work there on it so I think that's another clear indication why this would probably work. You talk about little communities in between there. You can go west from Valentine you get to Crookston, you get to Cody and you get to Kilgore and Nenzel and Merriman. And a lot of the people, like I say, around Merriman go to Gordon and east of there go to Valentine. But Valentine is clear over in the corner of the county so it's a long ways between the two towns over there. But anyway, I think since I've been in the Legislature I haven't had but one meeting in between Valentine and Gordon because they always want to come to the Valentine area. So I don't have no problem with this map the way it's drawn. Just like I said earlier, it condenses my district and makes less miles for me so that's why I'm going to continue to support this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you Mr. President, members. I frankly am not all that concerned about where the lines are drawn in the Panhandle. I think primarily and most justly it's a Panhandle issue. But since Senator Schimek weighed in, I thought I would weigh in as well; and since Senator Landis explained his vote, I thought I would do as well. The suggestion was is don't do anything. Now what formulated my position on this was when Senator Erdman, and I'm going to ask him to elaborate, had this issue on General File. This concern is not new. It's not unique to May 22. And he was asked to wait till Select in order for a compromise to be worked out. Senator Erdman, is that true?

SENATOR ERDMAN: I had filed it, Senator Hilgert, I had filed it on General. And in respect to all the parties involved, I went