

LB 350  
March 8, 1973

Journal and was laid over.

SPEAKER: Senator Fellman, before we take that up, the chair would like the prerogative of introducing seated in the north balcony 48 students from Fourth and Fifth Grades of the Leigh Community Schools and their instructor is Mildred Hake and Judy Grenier, and they, just by chance, are from Senator Hasebroock's district and we are delighted to have you this morning as visitors to the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, the only non-par...soon to be the only non-partisan and the only Unicameral Legislature in the United States. Now, Senator Fellman, back to you with your motion regarding LB 350.

SENATOR FELLMAN: LB 350 is a bill requiring a guard in front of a manhole. It's a bill that is the subject of some national discussion between the major parties that are involved that include the Communication Workers Union and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and there is a real possibility that this matter will become part of federal regulations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Therefore, I request unanimous consent to allow the bill to be withdrawn.

SPEAKER: Senator Fellman is asking unanimous consent to withdraw LB 350. The question is shall Senator Fellman be allowed to withdraw LB 350. All those in favor will vote aye. All those opposed will vote no. A simple majority is required. Have you all voted? The clerk will record. That's all right. A simple majority is all that is required, Senator.

CLERK: 22 ayes, Mr. President, 0 nays.

SPEAKER: OK. LB 350, then, is withdrawn, and that motion had been made yesterday and had laid over one day according to the Rules.

CLERK: Mr. President, there is pending a motion by Senator Fred Carstens to direct the Executive Board of the Legislature to investigate the possibility of redistricting the Legislature. The motion is laid over from yesterday. It is found on Page 716 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Fred Carstens for his motion.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I bring this matter up for discussion for a specific reason. During the last session, I believe, of the Legislature, we redistricted this Legislature in accordance with the 1970 federal census, and I believe most of us are now in districts fixed by the boundary of that session in accordance with the census figures. Now by Constitution we are ...and by law, we are required to redistrict the Legislature every ten years, but there is no prohibition on redistricting the Legislature more frequently. I believe in the nine years that I have been here we have totally redistricted the state Legislative boundaries three times. When we redistricted the last time, we were in sort of a constricted situation in that we were allowed, I believe, a tolerable limit of only 1%. Now as a result and as a result of some other minor peculiarities that took place, some of our districts have some rather odd-shaped forms and were created seemingly in with no direct relation, one boundary to the other. We have precincts stuck here in a district that should be in other districts and we have boundary lines that are irregular and rather ill-defined. Now, I will blame this entirely so that there will be no...no misunderstanding. I will blame this entirely on the fact that we were limited to the 1% tolerance. Now in a thirty-three, thirty-two, thirty-three thousand average district population, it is obvious that 1% is only about three hundred, three hundred and twenty people, so when you shift a hundred or a hundred and fifty from one