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LB 261

we need districts at all and my response is we don't necessarily need districts at all. If we wanted to choose all the justices from the entire state at large, we could do that, right? I mean are you with me to that point?

SENATOR DWORAK: Right.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I mean, for instance, the United States Supreme Court, there is no requirement...

SENATOR DWORAK: I understand that.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: ...that three judges come from the west, three from the midwest and three from the east.

SENATOR DWORAK: Then why do we need districts? Your bill is calling for districts as we have now.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: All right, right now we have districts. Okay, we have six districts around the state for the six associate judges and those districts are subject to redrawing every ten years by the Legislature.

SENATOR DWORAK: Why, Senator Hoagland?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Because the Constitution requires that every ten years those districts be redrawn to take into account population shifts, that is a current provision of the Nebraska Constitution.

SENATOR DWORAK: Okay, I understand, but not the judicial districts.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes, the judicial districts have to be redrawn every ten years to take into account population changes.

SENATOR DWORAK: Okay, fine.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Now the purpose of this bill is every ten years when the Legislature sits down to draw those districts, this will take the politics out of that. It will take the gerrymandering out of that because the Supreme Court districts will automatically follow the Congressional districts. All right? Now, of course, there is going to be some political considerations in drawing the Congressional districts but those will be Congressional political considerations which traditionally have been legitimate for the Legislature to take into consideration