

described on the right for those that are interested and the workload with the judges. District 16, the top one that involves the Sioux, Box Butte, Dawes and Sheridan County are four counties in which the City of Alliance is located and several years ago the workload for the one judge in that area became too much so he asked the Legislature for another judge, which we provided him. Then after doing that, the workload went down because Alliance closed up a lot of the work having to do with construction of railroad cars in that area and the population went down so the workload of the judge went down. The three districts in the Panhandle decided that since the workload in the 16th District was less and the workload in the 19th District was less, they decided that they would share this workload so they put one county, Morrill County, into the 16th District and another county, Garden County, into the 19th District, thereby making the workload approximately the same. If you will take this diagram that I have passed out showing judges' workload, you will notice that by doing this they evened out the workload quite dramatically. They have been doing this approximately two years and it has been working fine and it has been agreed among the three districts that it has been working fine. Now why do we want to change this from a temporary basis to a permanent basis? The reason is, of course, the retention of judges as voted on by the people they are serving. With it the way it is, in two counties the people who are being served are not getting to vote on the judge that serves them. By changing this redistricting slightly, the people being served by the judge will get to vote for the judge, which is fair and reasonable and should be. That is about it. So I move for the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: (No response.)

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, I see no further lights. Is there anyone else who wishes to discuss the matter? Senator Nichol, would you like to close?

SPEAKER NICHOL: No, I have explained it. I would just move for the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, the motion is the advancement of LB 287. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay.