

attorneys and judges from central and western Nebraska on the design of this particular plan?

PRESIDENT: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Johnson, I doubt if there is any bill that has been in this Legislature in the last seven years that has had more input than this particular bill. The Judiciary Committee twice has gone as far out as Chadron and in McCook, southwestern Nebraska, swung through the state twice on this particular issue, have corresponded extensively with judges and lawyers all over the state. The Bar Association has on a number of occasions been asked to look at it. I seriously doubt if there is anything that has been more considered than this particular general proposition.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I have one other question then. If, in fact, it has been as seriously considered, and I'm sure it has been, in fact I was a member of the Judiciary Committee when we went through the western part of the state, why have the western...or the attorneys and the judges been reluctant to accept this plan then if, in fact, we have discussed for so many years and yet there is still no...or there seems to be a great deal of reluctance in accepting any redistricting plan? I'm confused because if in fact it is going to better our system then I would think that there would be agreement or uniformity among the arguments presented for or against the issue.

SENATOR BEUTLER: First of all, the Bar Association is neutral on the proposal, Senator Johnson, and the Judges Association are in favor of what is called the South Dakota plan which is essentially about my plan although there is not a commission idea in that. In South Dakota the judges do it themselves. Now the reason as to why there is not uniformity, there are a lot of different kinds of reasons. Most of them aren't very good reasons. First of all, in areas where judges are badly underworked and there are a whole number of areas in the state, of course they like the situation and of course they get their lawyers to go out and say, hey, this is good. I'm underworked and that gives you good service and so if you look at some of the materials that I'll ask you to look at later, you'll see that there are a whole number of judges in the state who are underworked and they like their situation and they don't