

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, as I indicated to you yesterday, this amendment essentially kills the bill because it makes mush out of the bill. It makes it a nothing bill. I suggest to you that if this group makes recommendations, it is going to be like the recommendations that are made by so many groups. We take them with a grain of salt. Let me point out to you, for example, what we have done in the last six or seven years with regard to recommendations. Four years ago this Legislature gave out \$25,000 to a group that came up with a set of recommendations, eight different recommendations on redistricting. The Legislature wouldn't consider any of them. On LB 386 which was a redistricting proposal just for one district where everyone declared, everyone declared that there was a need to redistrict, none of those could get out of committee. The recommendations will do nothing. I submit to you again that it is a mistake to have the Legislature try to do this firsthand itself, that what we really need is for the commission to do it and if we are unhappy with the commission, then to come back and do it ourselves. I would like in order to further demonstrate to you what the historic facts have been, I would like to ask you to follow through the exhibits again that I passed out to you on two occasions now because I think I can prove to you that what Senator Lamb is saying is not the case at all. If you look at Exhibit C in my exhibits, you will see that we have had the judicial district system for our District Courts in place since 1891, and since 1891, a period of 94 years, or so, there have been 13 adjustments to the system, that is we have only made an adjustment once every six or seven years, that is we have only made an adjustment of any kind once every seven or eight years. Now of those 13 adjustments in the 94-year period, 5 of those adjustments had to do with shifting district boundaries, or could be interpreted as shifting district boundaries to adjust for workloads, only 5 of them; only 5 of them in 94 years. That means that once every 19 years this Legislature has seen fit to adjust boundaries. Now that, in my opinion, is a system without direction, a system without a head. If you look at the workload statistics that I passed out to you in Exhibit C...Exhibit E, you will see that things have been out of balance from the time that these statistics had gone into effect from 1978, '77, forward. Now that is just since we have had statistics. Before that, I suggest to you that the most likely situation was even greater chaos, even more inefficiency. To demonstrate that that is probably the