

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb, you made the motion. You are recognized.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, this would guarantee there would be 20 judicial districts. It would not say how those would be realigned. This would guarantee that we would not get down to 3. Under the Beutler amendment to the bill...to the committee amendments, we could get down to 3 judicial districts, one, Lancaster County; one, Douglas County; and one, the rest of the state. There is nothing in the bill that guarantees there would be any more than 3. Currently, we have 21 judicial districts. This bill would...or this amendment would guarantee that we would always have at least 20. I don't think we want to give that commission complete absolute control of the districts in the State of Nebraska. This would give them authority to adjust the workloads within the...within basically the present system that we have now. I ask that you adopt this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Beutler, do you wish to speak on the...to this amendment?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, we have 21 districts now and as I understand Senator Lamb's amendment, this would somehow reduce it to 20. However, when you set up districts you have to do it by statute. You have to say how you are doing it. His amendment does absolutely nothing except foul up the whole bill and if that is what you want to do, you should vote for his amendment. But other than that, it doesn't do anything at all. That amendment is put in a section that has to do with election districts, not with districts itself and we have talked a little about what the difference is between the election districts and the three main districts. So it is not in the proper place in the bill even and couldn't even be logically fit into the bill by the E & R people. So the amendment has no effect whatsoever except to throw a monkey wrench into the whole bill that somehow would have to be taken out at some point in time if it were to be made to make sense. So I would certainly ask for you not to adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis, your light is on, do you wish to speak to this amendment? Okay. Senator Remmers, your light