

introduced by Senator Beutler. (Read title.) The bill has been considered by the Legislature, Mr. President. There are committee amendments pending. There were amendments to the committee amendments that were offered by Senator Beutler on May 8th that were adopted. I now have pending, Mr. President, a motion by Senator Lamb to indefinitely postpone the bill. That will lay it over.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb, you are recognized on your motion to indefinitely postpone 516.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, we spent quite a bit of time on this bill last Thursday when a number of people were absent. This is the judicial redistricting bill which takes the authority for that chore out of the hands of the Legislature and gives it to the Supreme Court in the present form. Senator Beutler had an amendment to the bill which would have established a commission comprised of lawyers and judges and lay people who would have performed that service. I guess the major problem I have with the bill is the fact that we are abdicating our responsibilities in regard to Supreme...in regard to court redistricting. The statement has been made that the Legislature does not redistrict the state as the need arises. However, that is not true because we have already passed a bill this year which to a minor degree changed the court districts in the western part of the state. The Constitution states that this is a function of the Legislature. I do not believe we should relegate this important task to a commission. I think we should keep that authority. I believe that the Legislature will redistrict those courts as is necessary. I have also talked with a number of lawyers who tell me that even though the work loads theoretically are not even, that there is much cooperation out in the state and that those districts...those district judges pick up the work load in other districts when there is a need. I don't think this is a bill that should be advanced to do what may from time to time be necessary. I think the Legislature should retain that authority and do its job. I ask that the bill be killed.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, the bill is a good bill. The bill is a good bill and I am willing to accept anybody's idea for