

districts. And I gave you all an exaggerated example when I was going around from individual to individual, the example that involved what if you had one judge and his case load, his reasonable case load was 10, and then the case load went to 12, and that judge is overworked. So you add another...you come to the Legislature and you add another judge. And now you have two judges with 12 cases. And you divide it by 2, and you have each judge with 6 cases. Now you have judges that are...that are both seriously underworked rather than having one a little bit overworked judge. And that's precisely the situation you get into when you have 21 districts. And the handout that I've given you illustrates that, in fact, this did happen, historically in the 1980's when the old 16th district, which is Senator Wickersham's district, came into the Legislature and asked for a new judge. And in 1979, before they did that, just in terms of raw case loads, each...the judge had 477 cases to deal with. Well then they came in for another judge and the case load got divided. And the year afterwards there were 261 cases to be dealt with by each judge. And the 16th district, from that day until now, has been at the bottom of the judicial statistics, in terms of underworked districts, and has been chronically underworked, or overresourced, depending on how you look at it. But that's a perfect example of the problem with these large districts. And I might mention, by way of prefer...by way of peripheral comment on this particular instance, that it was the lawyers from the 16th district who came in here and asked for that judge. And do you know what judicial statistics they presented to you all when they did that? The very same ones that I'm presenting to you today and that we're talking about and have been discussing, the very same ones that Senator Wickersham now stands up and says, oh, they're not good enough for this purpose, but they were good enough for arguing for another judge for the 16th district when they wanted to do that. I'm saying let's hold these people...let's hold their feet to the fire. If those statistics are good enough for one purpose, they should be good enough for the other. And I suggest to you, they're good enough for both purposes. and I'll talk about that more a little bit later. But you need to have bigger districts because you cannot internally correct for minor problems in case loads when you have small districts, without having people come in and ask for judges. It just, historically, has not been done in any sort of efficient fashion. Thank you.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Landis,