

that idea that we have to cling to an old system. And I think Senator Beutler has worked and spent so many hours, if he could bill all those hours you'd be a wealthy man, Senator Beutler. But it really...I just think that that's the whole point and why I took it as a priority bill, because I was hoping it would come up, and here it finally has come up. And I think we should all support it and let it move on and see how the redistricting would work. I'm sure we could always come back and try to refine it if you don't think it's working the way it's supposed to. But I just urge you today to support this so we can get the whole thing together and try to make it work better with the new court of appeals and with the Supreme Court and with our whole system. Thank you.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, thank you. I rise in support of LB 1059 and I would like to thank Senator Beutler for all the many hours and years I guess I should say that he has put into this bill. Senator Wickersham really does make some good arguments against the bill. Senator Wickersham, I know about the distances, I know that not all judges work the same and that I know that a lot of cases are more difficult than others and I know that no system that we devise as far as the redistricting would be perfect. There is still going to be probably some inconsistencies in workload, but I tell you, I just got off the phone this noon with one of my constituents who owns a business here in Lincoln and he was telling me quite frankly about the state of his business and saying to me, when are folks down there ever going to, and I know you've all heard this, when are you ever going to start looking at economies in state government? And I said, well, it's funny that you should ask that because it wasn't too many days ago that there was an amendment to the tax bill that was to look at economies in state government and I have to confess that I got a little irritated about it because it was an amendment that was going to slash a lot of programs and I didn't feel at the time that enough thought had been put into that. I wasn't against the concept at all. I think that we need to do that. So I guess I have to say that I think Senator Beutler has put a lot of time into this and I think a lot of other people have too. I think it has been considered well and hard by this Legislature and if not now, when? Thank you.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator