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LB 851
LR 7

committee amendment. And it actually did amend the committee amendment, and let's move this bill down the road. If there's discussion to be had, it could be had on Select File, or on Final Reading. One of the things that had been bantered about quite a bit, was the fact that we did pass a legislative resolution, LR 7. I thought since we're talking about, that it might not be a bad idea to actually read what that says. And one of the things that it did say is, and granted, a legislative resolution does not rise to the level of the constitution or the Supreme Court cases that have interpreted the constitution. But on the third page, in talking about the redistricting process, it does say that the general goal of the redistricting process shall be the creation of districts that are substantially equal in population. Now just on the very next page, there's also kind of an interesting provision in that resolution that says that whenever there is presented to the Legislature, more than one plan that will substantially vindicate the above objectives, preference will be given to the plan that provides the greatest degree of population equality. Now that was in the legislative resolution that we passed. And I think it's been said, and it's been put on the record, the population deviation, albeit very small, in the committee amendments, was eliminated totally by the Bromm amendment, and that is why I believe that we should support the Bromm amendment, and it is the best and most constitutional amendment that we've seen for the congressional redistricting to date. Another thing that I guess I'd like to bring to the body's attention is, in addition to the legislative resolution, in addition to the constitution, in addition to the Supreme Court cases that give us some direction on where we're supposed to go on this, are the 2001 administrative guidelines that were adopted by our own Redistricting Committee. And in number two, it states that nothing in these guidelines shall be construed to prevent a member of the Legislature from introducing a bill containing a redistricting plan, or an amendment to a bill containing a redistricting plan at any stage in the legislative process, pursuant to the legislative rules. And therefore, I guess the reason why I bring that to our attention is, is that Senator Bromm didn't do anything underhanded or sneaky in proposing his amendment. It was done pursuant to the legislative rules. It was adopted yesterday, and I say it's time to get on with it, and that's why I oppose