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SENATOR VRTISKA: So you say the configuration is the same, but you're cutting...you're taking a corner out up there, Nemaha County, as I look at it.

SENATOR BEUTLER: We're taking all of Nemaha County. Nemaha County has 7,576 people, Johnson County has 4,488 people. It makes the deviations closer in both Supreme Court districts, it improves what we're trying to do on the deviation factor, which has been our guiding...our guiding factor in...in all of these. It improves it considerably if Nemaha is the one that is taken and not Johnson.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, as I said before, I...I understand what you're saying, except that there is allowance for deviations simply to...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...make districts conform more evenly rather than basically taking a corner out of the...you know, it's not a big deal with me, except that I...I'm not...I'm not totally in "agreeance" that that's the proper thing to do this. In fact, the deviation would not be in excess of what's allowed under the...under the constitution or the rules that were set down. So, I have a difficult time in...in selecting Nemaha County out of that block and moving them into the other district and I probably therefore won't support your proposal. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Members of the Legislature, I'm really kind of surprised that there's all this concern. The...the...the fact is so clear. You're moving a whole county, you're improving the deviations by 2 percentage points in the case of both the fifth and the first. I don't...I guess I don't really understand what the argument is, that we should have bigger deviations and prejudice one district by putting more people in it, which means it makes it harder for a lawyer in that district to get chosen to the Supreme Court, why would we do that? I mean our goal everywhere...we have a 5 percent deviation, but if you're going to have a high deviation, you ought to have a real reason for