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LB 261

SENATOR HOAGLAND: But the politics is going to be focusing on the Congressional districts not on the makeup of the Nebraska Supreme Court.

SENATOR NICHOL: But what difference does that make? There won't be any politics in this. We don't elect the judges and we are just talking about the periphery of these various districts. What difference does it make if they change because they are both going to change anyway? What difference does it make if they change because they are going to change either way, aren't they?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Well, I think, yes, they are probably going to change, yes.

SENATOR NICHOL: But you are saying it becomes political when the representative districts change, why does it make it any more political than the other way because we are not electing anybody? The judicial districts have to be by population, right?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Right.

SENATOR NICHOL: So, what difference does it make, first of all?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I am not sure I fully understand your question, Senator Nichol. I think the problem we have now is that the Supreme Court judicial districts can be gerrymandered. They are subject to gerrymandering and the current districts as they exist now were probably the result of gerrymandering. If you take a look at the maps that accompany this letter, why you can see the way the current districts have been drawn up they have been the product of gerrymandering and we (interruption).

SENATOR NICHOL: Who did that? Who carried (interruption).

SENATOR HOAGLAND: The Legislature did about ten years ago.

SENATOR NICHOL: And you say they won't anymore?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: No, I say if this is adopted, there won't be any gerrymandering with respect to the Supreme Court districts any longer because they will automatically go along with the Congressional district.

SENATOR NICHOL: Okay, now the second question is this, there is a judge serving now from Sidney, Nebraska, which

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