

January 30, 1981

LB 406, 523

Lancaster County probably won't have as big a problem as perhaps they will out in my area where if any of you would look at the map you will see what they did to my people ten years ago. I guess that is one reason I am interested in trying to get a nonpolitical situation this time.

SENATOR WESELY: So you would allow us to sit down and work together and come up with some ideas, but then the committee would take the final review as the oversight function you have.

SENATOR KAHLE: Absolutely.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. Senator Hefner, can I ask you the same question? Would you allow us to meet locally and develop different alternative boundaries and what we would recommend to the committee and then the committee would take that state overview and come up with a final draft? Is that how you see the process working?

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner, will you respond?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, certainly. Senator Wesely, the way I understand this will work is that Ron Bowmaster who is with the Legislative Council's research staff, would start on this. He would meet with whatever committee gets this. At the present time he was ready to meet with the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee, and we would visit with him. He would brief us on what federal and state guidelines we would have to follow, and then at the present time he has the preliminary census figures and we would start on those. The final figures will be received I understand the first part of March. Then we would start using them. Ron and my staff would be working together and yes, I would say that we will try and get input from individual senators or groups of senators, and like with the Lancaster County delegation we would want to meet with them and see if we could work out any problems that we might have. I will assure you that our committee will be fair and just to all of those involved.

SENATOR WESELY: I guess the concern was, Senator Hefner, that if we can sit down and draft equitable boundaries within the county, we don't affect any other districts. Similarly I guess, we might say, Douglas County might be in the same boat, and if you are wholly contained within a county and those people within that county are able to work out their different