

So with that, I oppose Senator Carsten's amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Carsten, do you wish to close now?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I want to call your attention to the committee report. You will notice that there were three members did not support the committee amendments. Now if you don't think that testimony at the hearing didn't have some weight, why did those three not vote to support the committee amendments. I would like to ask Senator Dworak a question if I may. He is a student of the Constitution. Understands the Constitution quite well I think. Senator Dworak, is there anything in our Constitution relative to the crossing of county lines when you reapportion?

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator Carsten, I appreciate the compliment. And whether I am a student of the Constitution or not might be stretching the imagination. Of course, I was very involved in my own redistricting and the Constitution is very specific as I read it that if...you shall not cross county lines unless it is absolutely necessary.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you, Senator Dworak. In my opinion, ladies and gentlemen, I don't think it is necessary that we cross county lines. I think my proposal is really reasonable and I am ready, if necessary, to have it challenged, and if the court does the work, I would be truthful with you in bringing that the court would not cross county lines either. I think it is an injustice to Cass County and I am going to say to me, "You are doing this for ten years now, and our county, our county government subdivisions, our Congressmen are going to be working under those guidelines and mandated rules for ten years and that is a long time". I don't think that Miscellaneous Committee has worked any harder on this bill than our Revenue Committee has worked on other bills nor than the Appropriation Committee has worked on their bills or the Judiciary Committee has worked on theirs. Of course, they have worked and we, as committees in this body, would not be doing our job if we didn't. I appreciate the hard labor that they have done, as I am sure you do, but the end result of all of our labors and our deliberations are not accepted one hundred percent and certainly I am not ready to accept the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee recommendation on 523. I urge you to think seriously of what you are doing when you cross county lines in reapportioning the state of the three Congressional districts and support my amendment to keep the counties intact. Thank you, Mr. President.