

particularly a committee amendment with a simple majority, that that was the basis all the amendments were being considered but since it was adopted by a majority of the elected members it seems to me that it is not inappropriate to adopt the amendment and advance the bill. No one is any worse off or no better off. It takes twenty-five votes to change it in any event whenever any change is proposed but at least if it was right ten, fifteen, twenty minutes ago, it is not going to be wrong now nor is it wrong a day or two from now. I still would suggest that this does accomplish within reasonable disparity of population, the count that I have been given is the First District would be 525,718 which is a plus .45. The Second District is 519,704 which is a minus .69 and the Third District would be 524,584 which is a plus .23 but that is all well within...well it is all less than .7 of 1% disparity which on Congressional Districts is reasonably close it would seem to me and I would hope that the body would adopt the amendment and advance the bill. If there is second thoughts why those can be accomplished later but it seems to me that there is, in fact, no point in advancing the bill if you do not feel that the twenty-five votes was right first and procedurally everybody here knows that it gets to Select File then it takes 25 votes to do anything. And I would hope that you would advance the bill intact with the amendment now. There are those who want to hold hearings. That can be done as has been proposed for other legislation. Obviously, those who are going to be moved will not like it. Those who do not have to be moved will appear in support. But I think the concept of not crossing county lines is important enough to stand somewhere. I hope you would stand to protect that concept here.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. Speaker, I support the committee amendments and I think we need to suspend our rules about holding the hearing. I think we could hold it Friday and we still would have plenty of time to have the people come in and be heard on this major issue and then the committee could report back to the Legislature what took place, and I think if we did have a hearing on this, I think there would be enough interest to support these lines, and so I hope that we adopt the committee amendments and then act on it on Select File as others have suggested.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Carsten. Senator Landis, do you wish to speak to the committee amendments?

SENATOR LANDIS: Just very briefly, Mr. Speaker. If you recall just a moment ago, there was an expression of concern on behalf of the people of Pierce County