

May 22, 1981

LB 552

you, Senator Hefner. I guess I would suggest this. In splitting Omaha, I think the intent was quite clear. Most of the lawyers in the Second Congressional District area are found in Omaha and what we are trying to do, and we had this constitutional amendment last year to try to go to Congressional Districts and have two Supreme Court justices from each of those three Congressional Districts so that we wouldn't be bound so much by geographical lines and more bound by the intent of trying to find the best qualified people to serve on the Supreme Court. Well, I would submit to you that you will find most of the lawyers in the First Congressional District in Lincoln and that you will find the people that perhaps may be best qualified, in some cases you may have several in the case of Lincoln because it is the population center of the First Congressional District. So my suggestion is this, and I will look into it further, but I am intending at this point to try and develop a map which would split Lincoln, just as Omaha is split, on the Supreme Court Judicial Districts. I don't know if that can be accomplished easily or not but it would only make sense in my mind that if we do it in Omaha we should do it in Lincoln. Senator Fowler questions which boundary we might use within Lincoln, O Street or 48th Street or what have you. Considering the location of lawyers in the city, we will have to consider that as well. Nevertheless, it seems to me that we might be wise to look at that. I will be proposing something on Select File perhaps if I can work it out and I think it would make sense for the state to do that. I think that that would be a greater balance of Supreme Court Judicial Districts by doing it and so I just want to warn you that I am looking into it and I think it wouldn't be a bad idea to do.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Hefner, would you like to close?

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, I move the adoption of the committee amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: The question is, shall the committee amendments be adopted? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay.

CLERK: Senator Nichol voting yes.

SENATOR NICHOL: Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Hefner.