

May 26, 1981

LB 551

only because they didn't want me to cross the Sarpy County line. Now if this amendment does go through, I will have to, on Final Reading, bring back the other bill and try to get myself back the 3,000 or at least 2,800 people that I volunteered to cut myself down in order not to cross the Sarpy County line. I urge the members of this body to reject this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I think all of you are aware of some of the problems we had when we were discussing Omaha and Douglas County boundary lines for the state Senators. We had a plan worked out where Bernice would go a little bit into Sarpy County but the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee said, "No, we don't want you crossing county lines". I know it is hard to be consistent in this body all the time but I think this is an obvious inconsistency, one that is not warranted, and really has no justification. I would urge you not to adopt Senator Hefner's amendment to 551 and that way we will avoid any amendments on Final Reading that I can guarantee you will be offered if this amendment is adopted. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Hefner's proposal. Laying aside for a minute the question, procedural questions about whether it had a public hearing, laying aside for a moment the question of the committee sticking together, laying aside the question of the Sarpy County line which I think Senator Koch and Labeledz have a legitimate point on and that we should, if we adopt this amendment, reconsider their boundaries. But I think as the perspective of a Lincoln Senator the Hefner proposal and that which I think is strongly supported by Public Service Commissioner and former Senator Simpson has a lot of logic to it. Sarpy County really does not belong with Lincoln. It really belongs more with Omaha. I mean any district, any area that would send us George Fenger really doesn't belong with Lincoln, it belongs with the Omaha delegation, and for that reason I think that Sarpy County and places in Sarpy County should be attached to Omaha, and counties such as Richardson, Southeast Nebraska, should be tied back to Lincoln and that way Lincoln can dominate this Public Service District without conflicting with another urban area. Now there are many greater ties, I think, and the Platte River is a natural boundary between Lancaster and Sarpy County and there are many ties between Lancaster