

County on their board?

SENATOR WARNER: I...everybody is shaking their head no, Senator Chambers, to me. That's probably true. I honestly...it's not a thought that I can tell you from my own knowledge.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: They're correct, there isn't that...there isn't that kind of an ethnic group of that size in Lancaster County. If...Taking that into consideration, would it alter your opinion about whether or not what works in a relatively homogeneous society, such as you find in Lancaster County, would be equally workable and applicable in an ethnically diverse county such as Douglas?

SENATOR WARNER: The more persuasive argument, Senator Chambers, would be the one I mentioned, that is just sheer size of Douglas County. I'm not...I haven't thought about the aspect that you're suggesting. I would prefer not to think that that ought to be a factor in the election.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR WARNER: I appreciate that it may well be, but I would prefer not to even consider...put myself in the position of considering that to be a factor, although I appreciate it can exist.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, thank you. Members of the Legislature, I must consider it as a factor. And the sheet I handed you, where the federal judge imposed district elections on Thurston County was because of that very factor. The 1986, U.S. Supreme Court decision that I handed to you, the paper...there is a paper discussing that, from a magazine, based it on the very factor that I mentioned, not the size of the county but the minority groups whose votes have been diluted. If the Legislature decides to not allow this to happen, there is an alternative, and the Legislature has told other people before, go to court and do it. If that is what the Legislature decides, I have no way to make the Legislature do anything. But I believe there are valid arguments for doing a district system of election in Douglas County. And I hope you will vote to reconsider the adoption of Senator Labeledz's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hannibal.