

also available for close scrutiny, be it a larger map. What basically my amendment does is to, and in contrast to, and I guess that's the easiest way to look at it, in contrast to the map that was the committee amendments that was, in essence, what's known more affectionately as the Senator Schimek proposal for congressional districts. The main difference, if you will compare the two, between that that's in the packet and the one that I offer, is that under the Conway amendment the counties of Pierce and Madison stay with the First District rather than being moved out. And then the counties of Fillmore, Saline, Jefferson and the southern half of Gage are moved into the Third to get the balance. Attached to this handout, you will see the statistics. I believe if you will compare, this is...of the proposals in front of you up to this point, these are the...the...have the tightest fit in terms of mean deviation and overall range. That hasn't a great deal of bearing because all the proposals that are in front of you are also very close. What this really does, in my mind, and we can get into the so-called R and D debate, we can get into several other concerns, one of my greatest concerns, as we look at what the amendment that the committee advanced out of committee, over my opposition, I might add, is the fact that Pierce and Madison County, once they are removed from the First Congressional district and then you have a rather inclusive grouping down below Lancaster County putting Thayer and Fillmore and Saline and Jefferson and all of Gage back intact under that plan, what you've got is a just unbelievable dominance of the entire First Congressional District all wrapped up around one city known as Lincoln, or one county known as Lancaster. Within about 30 miles in each direction of Lancaster County there is literally no population of any consequence left. Madison County, we've already lost Platte County for Columbus which we consider somewhat in our northeast section, to lose Madison County literally takes out the last of the population centers of consequence. So one of the real thrusts of this situation is that the First Congressional District contains some degree of balance. It still would be very dominated by Lancaster County but at least it gives us a fighting chance to have a population center up into the northeast corner of the state. If we're going to be in that...in that legislative district...or, excuse me, that congressional district, it seems as though the least we can do is provide enough population base to make it worthwhile for a congress person or a candidate to give some attention to above the Platte River. Again, that district already is known to be quite different from above the Platte than below the