

would be different. But that's...that's the way it is. Senator Schimek, well, we shouldn't be splitting counties. Well, I really don't see any problem with splitting one county as long as we do it along precinct or township lines. And this one county that we are splitting it's a predominantly rural county and whether we have 300 more farms in one district or 300 farms or 400 farms less in another district, I don't...I certainly don't think that's a good argument. But a good argument that I have is that Norfolk is a center for northeast Nebraska and I know all the counties up there that I represent will consider Norfolk the hub of northeast Nebraska. And I guess I would hate to see that be put over in the Third District. I would rather see that in the First District. And so I hope that you can support the Conway plan. I...like I said before, I think it's reasonable and so I would encourage you to support this plan. I realize that we're probably not going to get the perfect plan but I remember ten years ago when we was doing this we finally came up with a reasonable plan and that plan was never challenged in the courts for the last ten years. So, by working together, talking about a few of these different plans, I think we can come up to a workable plan and I think this is a reasonable and workable plan and I encourage you to support it.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Hefner. The next speaker is Senator Peterson.

**SENATOR PETERSON:** Mr. President and members, I rise to support the Conway amendment and, of course, I did on the Bud Robinson one too because I think it's very imperative that Madison County, in particular Madison County be left in the First Congressional District. It's been there as long as I can remember. There's no one that I know of in Madison County that wants in the Third District and I can speak in behalf of resolutions that have been passed up there in regards to Democrats and Republicans, all agree on this. Senator Schimek says she seems to be willing to split counties in the legislative district but says we shouldn't split them in a congressional district. Well, I have a problem with that, too. We'll be dealing with that down the road here shortly, I presume. As has been stated, Madison County is a hub of northeast Nebraska. It's a reasonable retail market and industrial base, an entertainment center, an agricultural base for nine northern counties of the First Congressional District, which includes Knox, Pierce, Madison, Wayne, Stanton, Cummings, Cedar, Dixon, Dakota and Thurston. The removal of Madison and