

prior to 1960 when we had four congressional districts out there that many of the counties that I have now in the Third District across that southern tier were in a district of their own. So it's not that these people have not been in a cooperative vein before. We talk about community interest. One of the things I think when we talk about community interest we need to focus on, if that is important to us, is to look at those elements of community interest that have something to do with public policy at the federal level. I think the fact that somebody from Saline County comes over to Lincoln and shops at the mall probably doesn't have a great deal to do with national level public policy, whereas maybe some of the farm issues, some of the other kinds of issues that are dealt with at the national level certainly would. So when we look at community interest, we can't get overly caught up in that. Also, when we start talking about the R and D balance, very little was said about my plan or Senator Schimek's plan with respect to the boundaries between the First and Second Congressional District, as Senator Robinson this morning was trying to address, making those changes. Both the Schimek plan and the Conway plan have come up with exactly the same lines with respect to the First and Second Congressional District. What wasn't said in terms of if you're looking for balance of R's and D's is that basically the Republicans, if you will, have very much acquiesced to that plan, allowing a much stronger Democratic stronghold with respect to the Second Congressional District than what they had before and now they want to maximize it in terms of on the western border between the First and Third as well. We have already given a great strength to the Democratic registration over in the Second Congressional District and, like I say, under my plan I have acquiesced to that, did not expect to have a fight over a very, very minuscule impact difference between the Saline Democratic stronghold with respect to whether it's in or out of the First or Third Congressional District. So the R and D fight in terms if you're looking for net balances, I think we have already been more than fair enough with respect to one congressional district there. As you look at the...the real difference and, again, that I come back to is keeping the First Congressional District with certain degree of concentrations and a stronghold, if you will, is still going to be in the southern...south of the Platte. Senator Wesely aptly pointed out I was wrong, Fremont is on the other side of the Platte. It sits on the Platte but it is on the north side of the Platte and I need to apologize for that that there is...there is no large, large city on the other side. When we look at the community