

now is Senator Hefner, Chambers, Peterson and Withem. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I think we ought to think a little bit more about this plan that we're talking about. I know that I feel it's very important to have as many rural senators in this body as we can get and I imagine maybe some of you urban senators feel the other way. But since agriculture is our number one industry in Nebraska, I think it's real important that we have representatives from the rural area. I know there's a lot of plans floating around today. There have been for the past week but a lot of them haven't been finalized. This plan, the committee amendment, as the district that I represent isn't that bad. I can certainly live with it. But for some of my other colleagues in rural Nebraska it isn't so good. So I think we need to take a little time, take a little time, analyze it a little more carefully and then go from there. But I would hate to see two rural senators eliminated from this body. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I have a few more things to say about the subject which I was discussing the last time I spoke. The World-Herald had written an editorial criticizing people who were offended at the "Repelican" Party's so-called plan to split the African-American district so that there would not be a guaranteed black representative from either of the districts. The World-Herald editorialist indicated that it was a serious point of view and it should be taken seriously and not dismissed out of hand if it were serious and had been presented to the committee as any serious proposal would be presented. If there had been a placing of that attempt to split the African-American district into the context of a comprehensive Douglas County plan even, maybe something could be said about us being serious. But when it comes in at 11:31 p.m., it is not attached to any other aspect of redistricting. It was not discussed with me, which I wouldn't expect the "Repelicans" to do anyway, but it was not even discussed with the members of their party in the Legislature who were working on a redistricting plan and who would have to vote on one and these are factors which show that it had a political motivation. The World-Herald pointed out that I, as an individual, Senator Chambers would not be at risk of losing his seat even if the district were split. What we're