

Nebraskans have not had a chance to see any of these maps that are going to be presented today brand new. No one but this body, in fact some of us are just seeing other maps for the first time today, no district or no county or no other areas have a chance...will have a chance really to respond, and that's unfortunate. Under the committee plan, at least Nebraskans have seen it. There has been response. In the committee process, Madison County was objectionable 'cause it was split, Dawson County wanted to make sure theirs was not split. Beyond that, there was no particular criticism of the committee plan as advanced. In Senator Elmer's plan, to me the Constitution is clear. Number one, I want to point out that I do not believe Senator Elmer's plan violates the Constitution. I think he's correct in arguing that technically this is constitutionally correct. I agree with that. I think it is. But one must ask if there's a plan out there, if you have a choice of two plans or more, one plan gives an entire legislative district of some 30-some thousand people a senator of which they...was not appointed, of which does not reside in the district, and who, after the two years of serving that district, will not ever be able to be in that district because they don't live in the district. They'll be running in another district. Is that in the spirit of the best interests of those people? I think all of us know that people in Dawson County, for example, that I know very, very well, they're basically saying we want Dawson County united; we don't care if it's Senator Cudaback, we like Senator Cudaback, we don't care if it's Senator Elmer, we like Senator Elmer, and we really have appreciated what Senator Schrock has done; he's really done a tremendous job for us. They're comfortable with all of those. But the question is when a senator represents a district and the people in that district know in the final analysis they have no pressure to put on the senator because they cannot say, we'll have to work this out in the election next time; you're really going against us on this one; we'll come back and you're going to hear from us at the election. They can't say that in the 38th District under the Elmer plan. They can't say that. I know Senator Elmer knows the people in the area and I'm sure he would do a tremendous job, but the spirit of the Constitution said that if a senator is removed from a district, i.e., has he moved, that he cannot...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ..represent the district. Senator