

the argument that just because we're going to have a different senator representing District 39 this is not fair. The rest of us have the same kinds of situations because we're all going to, because of necessity of population changes, it has to be a shift. That's all there is to it. None of us are going to get what we want exactly, and I'm not even going to talk about the fact that one of the reasons I like this map four is that it does keep be below the river and Arlene Nelson doesn't want me up there in Hall County. I'm not going to tell you about all those kinds of things. I'm just going to go on and tell you that if our theme here in the discussion it seems to me has been commonality, communities of interest, then, you know, and that this map does do that for us out in rural Nebraska. And we did put the map out of committee with the understanding, very clearly, for me at least as a member of the committee, the understanding that it was not set in stone; that there was going to be an opportunity for some adjustments to be made in rural Nebraska districts. That was very clearly discussed in committee. We are retaining a great part of the original plan which was the Bernard-Stevens plan with this map, as with the other maps that we are seeing here on the floor. We can't blame senators that did not have a plan for public hearing. We all know that the committee itself got started very, very late in the session on this redistricting issue through no fault of the committee because the committee or the computer system was not up, it was not ready, it was not available. So we can't say that just because these things have not been discussed in committee they should not be considered here on the floor. We should take into consideration that we are using the shell of the B-S plan, which is what we talked about doing in committee, and that we were going to allow the rural counties and districts to try to see what they could do within that framework and I think that Senator Owen Elmer has done that. I'm going to support this plan at this point in time and I'm not giving you total credit, Senator Elmer, because you did use, I'm sure, a lot of what had been provided in the original plan. So I don't think there's really any pride in ownership here that we should be considering. We should be considering what's best for all the districts across the State of Nebraska and I like this plan for that reason. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Bernard-Stevens has made a very strong point of saying that the