

Withem has done here is taken a plan of two of the other people and has been able to at least please in part both of them because Madison County is retained, Saline County is retained and some other counties are taken out and he follows county lines, which I think is one of the criteria that we're supposed to be looking at to the nearest extent possible. I think this is a good compromise. We all know what we've been told as far as the Governor is concerned and a veto. I don't want to come back in a special session just to deal with a congressional district map. I would urge you to really take a good look at Senator Withem's compromise and support that because I think it's the fairest way to go. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Smith. I'll now recognize Senator Coordsen, followed by Senators Byars and Conway. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. Again, as I did last week, I rise to support the compromise plan. I would have preferred, in respect to the people in my area that I represent, the Schimek plan because it would have left them all whole but, in the spirit of compromise, this, rather than impact all of the shift in one area of the state, spreads it around, shifts two counties on the north side, two counties on the south side, makes Gage County whole and the community of Tilden whole. So I don't believe there's anything more I can say for that. The population shift is about as close as you can get in the numbers of people on the north side and on the south side, and for those of you that might be interested in the Rs and Ds, I think this leaves the makeup of the 1st District more closely aligned with the current registration of the first district than either of the other two plans, so I would encourage the adoption of the Withem amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Yes, Madam President, I also rise to support the Withem plan. I think I've made myself clear in past conversations with my colleagues that I want, if at all possible, to keep Gage County whole, whether it be in the congressional districting or the legislative redistricting, and I would very simply urge your support.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Conway. Senator Hefner.