

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Conway.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Madam President and members. LB 614, as you all know, is the infamous legislative redistricting plan. I spent the entire weekend going over the specifics of that particular plan, along with the people from bill drafting and some dedicated people down in my staff making sure that the language that was written in the bill was in concurrence with the map as was amended and as was drawn and as was voted upon in terms of the previous levels of debate. There were several areas that we found where there was some technical amendments, if you will, that would be a better means to describe the districts as they were mapped out on the computer and identifying each of those particular census tracks as we broke them down at the census track level. There was no attempt to change the plan or the map in any way, shape or form. It was simply a means by which one describes it. We found many areas, as we did, and I offered as other amendments to a couple of the other redistricting bills where there was a street that did not continue on. The street name changed and, therefore, in order to make it technically accurate in every way, shape and form that I could that we marched through this thing piece by piece, by piece, and I think the amendments you see now in a white copy form, so that each person can look up their own district or neighboring districts or your enemy's district, whatever you've got in mind, can sort through those things and identify whether or not that district is accurately written. I firmly believe and will put whatever statistical credibility I have on the line, that we now have a bill that has language that reflects the maps that most of you became very familiar with and accustomed to. Now, like I say, we did find several errors in that language where there were situations where a street was called moving west when it, obviously, should have been moving eastwardly. We found other kinds of things like that, but there was no attempt to change whatsoever. There was places where a railroad track and a creek run parallel to one another with only a few feet in-between and the railroad track was deemed to be a better descriptive line and, in many cases, the maps that were submitted to us, the pencil-lead difference in terms of the width, but no attempt was made to move any people whatsoever but only to get the language to very accurately reflect the maps as they were constructed. So, with that, I offer you the white copy amendment to LB 614 with all of the technical amendments.