

January 14, 1992

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Hartnett would move to amend the Rules Committee proposal. The Hartnett amendment may be found on page 278 of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam Chairman and members of the body, I think, as Senator Lynch stated, I think I came forward with the proposal to the Rules Committee that does something different. It doesn't change the way that the Committee on Committees reacts or acts and so forth. I simply looked at...we simply looked at creating a sixth caucus and I did pass out, you know, where you stand on the sixth caucus. It would create what I call three rural...three rural districts, basically rural districts, and three urban...urban districts. One of the urban districts would be in Lincoln. The other two would be in Omaha. And I think it's a fair division of power. It would expand the Committee on Committees from where the number right...it is right now, from 13 to 19. It would have...five of the committees would have eight members and one of the committees would have nine members; that's District 4. We would have...and when I made my proposal in front of the Rules Committee I was...it simply, if Senator Wesely is the Chairman of a committee, it goes through the sixth and it doesn't...I...as I made the proposal in the Rules Committee, it would skip, but this proposal does not skip. There would be two from the District 1 which Senator Wesely is located in. For the Appropriations Committee, which I think is the most important committee on the...on the...in this body, it would create three super districts. One and two would go together. That would be Lincoln and the southeast district for the Appropriations Committee would form one; 3 which is the Omaha suburban and north central, would be the second super district; and 5 and 6 would...or 3 and 5, excuse me, 1 and 2 would be one, 3 and 5, the two Omaha districts, would be one for the Appropriations Committee, and 4 and 6. And from those committees, they would choose three members from the Appropriations Committee and that simply would also include the chairman. And I think we've had a shift in our population because we're getting into the Omaha-Lincoln area two more senators and simply this is my idea of a proposal for setting up the Committee on Committees. Thank you.