

February 12, 1992 LB 946

body. I think that some of the debate on this bill indicates the confusion that surrounds the current system. We have spelled out, and it has been historical language that has simply been passed forward from one redistricting to another as to the operative date. What we're...what we have, and certainly statute cannot take precedence over constitutional language. And I believe that what we have, in effect, in current law is language that is contrary to the intent of the Constitution. I rather suspect and I would have no problem at all in delaying Select File activity on this until an Attorney General's Opinion was received relative to the bill. That's not the problem. That's no problem to me. I have no interest in any form in this particular bill. It doesn't apply to me. I, in a matter of fact, was somewhat reluctant to introduce because of the current situation that Senator Peterson is involved in. But I felt there was enough confusion existing between people who should be expert on the issue that it was one of the best of ideas to try to correct the language in statute, not only for this time, but for each ten years coming down the road when this issue will again be...again be addressed. I would share with you that upon the advancement of this to Select File I will ask the Speaker to hold the bill until we can get an Attorney General's Opinion. I will ask for that. And that's my pledge. So, with that, I would simply encourage the advancement of 946. It attempts to clarify, to bring statute into alignment with constitutional provisions and put in place a system that is more readily understood than the current system that we have carried forward in statute by a selection of words from some years past. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. I will say I got your request, and we will hold that bill until we do receive an Attorney General's Opinion, and we won't let it come up on Select until we do. We are now voting on the advancement of LB 946. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the advancement of LB 946. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Mr. Speaker, in view of the lateness of the hour, it appears that some of the members might have left without being excused. I don't know if it's going to be necessary to ask for a call of the house. It does appear that we're coming close to the time when we might have to ask for...ask for a call of the house. It just...it appears to me that that likelihood is approaching, although I really hate to