

April 6, 1992

LB 1059

judge that lives within a mile of him, but, because there are so many people trying to get to that same judge, he has access problems, I have access problems. You should be able to base these decisions on some sort of waiting system and number system that people are satisfied with.

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: They have not been so at this point.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Chizek, you're next.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Mr. President, colleagues, I think we can get philosophical on these issues if we want to rather than address judicial redistricting. As we need to redistrict for judges, you know, we went through similar conversations when we redistrict for this body and why do we redistrict for the Legislature and for the Congress and so on and so forth? We do it because the population changes. Now if we're so naive as to believe that government will continue to provide services and all basic services in all of our 93 counties as we know it today, then J.L. Schmidt from the AP might want to sell you a bridge. You're going to have to combine government. You're not going to just...we're going to have to redistrict with judges, we're going to have to look at combining government. When I say we, as I said earlier, I'm leaving. Those of you that are staying are going to be faced with some very critical issues. Let me point out to you some things that are very easy to understand. District 1, judicial district, the population in 1920 was 50,033 people. The population in 1990 is 25,907. That's roughly down 48 percent, same number of judges. District 2, in 1920 the population was 46,800. I'll round them off. In 1990 it was 138,150, an increase of 91,000, percentage increase of almost 20 percent, had 1 judge in 1920, has 2 in 1991. District 3, population in 1920 of 85,000. Today, 213,600, an increase of 148 percent. In 1920 they had 4 judges. Today they have six. The 5th district, the population in 1920 was 92,000. Today it's 71, minus 29 percent, 2 judges in 1920, 2 today. The 9th district, 98,000 in 1920, 83,000 in 1990, 15 percent reduction, 2 judges in '20, 2 judges today. The 10th district, 85,000 in 1920, 65,000 in 1990, reduction in 24 percent, 2 judges in 1920, 2 judges today. Fourteenth,

12435