

judgment that was requested. But in so doing there was already a primary election in District 19. And if you make them an even numbered district so that Madison County, or excuse me, Madison County would not have an election for two years, to keep in 19, as it was known, intact, we've got that conflict. And those were basically the two theories that were continually worked. Madison County as an even, or Madison County as an odd, and they are absolutely 180 degrees off from what you can do once you subscribe to one theory or the other. As we worked through the committee, under LB 7, that was under the theory that Madison County be an odd numbered district. Then the geography had to change. That bill was offered and what that affected only was District 40 and 18, under my original offering District 17 was left exactly as it was before. But in so doing other things of concern that the committee still has a concern, and that being communities of interest were somewhat broken up because it was a matter of delving out District 19 in whatever fashion it took to make the statistics work, which was first and foremost in our goals. Senator Dierks, Senator Schellpeper and myself, those that were directly affected by this change, sat down and tried to do the same thing with District...or with LB 7 to come up with an amendment to LB 7, as it was introduced, that might also help bridge the concerns for communities of interest and the like, and that's what you have in front of you now is LB 7 as amended by the committee yesterday. Basically what it does, it pulls me into the fray as well, taking more of Wayne County, the rural areas of Wayne County and affixing those with the already basic rural areas of Pierce and Stanton, opening that corridor up some. And the population that I lost we put up into what I call my river towns, where I used to represent anyway, Ponca, New Castle and the like, in the northern part of Dixon County. The northern part of Dixon County communities have a great deal of community of interest with the northern sections of Dakota and that whole river run, community organizations like Missouri River Bank Stabilization Group, and other kinds of things from a community interest perspective. So that was the logical addition onto my district from what was subtracted out of the rural areas of Wayne County. So what you have in front of you is LB 7 as amended. And I offer these amendments to LB 7 to the body for their acceptance.

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Conway. Senator Hefner, you're next.