

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield my time to Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Beutler, is Senator Beutler in the Chamber? I'd like to ask him a few questions. And while he's walking to the microphone, I think one of the things that's going to be important for the body, no matter what decision we make, whether we do nothing, which, in fact, is not doing nothing, making a decision not to make a change and do it next year is, in fact, doing something. If we do the plan that's before us here on the committee amendments, whether we adopt another plan later on, whether we do a whole state it won't make too much difference. But I think the body needs to know what the ramifications are, no matter which way we go, so that we can make a decision that will be the least disruptive and give us the best legal position of the choices that are not very good before us at this time. Senator Beutler, I guess I wanted to have a little dialogue spinning off on some of the things you were discussing in regard to the constitutional amendment and what's going to happen if we proceed in the direction that we're going. In your...in your analysis, if we decided that the action we were going to take was not to make any changes at this time, have the election process continue and then make changes next year without any constitutional amendment, Madison County, in your judgment and mine as well, certainly would file suit and what would probably be the result, in your opinion?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Madison County I'm sure would file suit, and I'm not sure whether anybody can predict absolutely what would happen at all, because it's a lot of new territory. But it's possible that the court itself would say what the district is going to be, to say that it's going to be a district and you will vote on this district.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, so one of the risks, certainly, that the body needs to keep in mind is if we decide to do no changes, which again is the decision, that one of the ramifications could be that certainly Madison County would sue and say to the Legislature, you did not follow what the court said in the Day v. Nebraska case, therefore we demand the