

happen to be somewhat familiar with the south central region of the State of Nebraska. We have an unofficial criteria that is used, met as far as it is possible to do so and that's community of interest. Certainly there is no legal nor constitutional mandate for that, but it's one we do I think to better serve the people who live in varied legislative districts across the State of Nebraska. LB 15 certainly does meet that unofficial criteria of community of interest much better than the original division of the 38th and the 44th district. It does meet an official criteria of compactness much better than what the original districts do. So from those two points alone, I would encourage your support and adoption of LB 15. If the Governor feels that it is not within the call, this is a separate issue, the Governor certainly can declare so and veto that if in the event that it passes the Legislature. So I think if it is not within the call then that will be decided by the person who drew the call as it were. So I'd encourage at this time at least on General File that the Legislature support LB 15. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Mr. Speaker, members, I rise in support of Senator Schrock's LB 15. We discussed it in committee. I supported him then. You've heard a number of arguments for reasons to support it. Another may be that as you've watched people get up and talk about the unhappiness of people in south central Nebraska, you've heard from senators who are close to that area, Senator Schrock, Senator Coordsen, myself. Recently I spent some time in Superior, Nebraska, in a gathering of about 150 people. They do feel harmed. They feel that they have no relationship or it would be very difficult to have a relationship with a state senator residing in McCook. They are very unhappy. I know they would feel this is an opportunity the Legislature could right or wrong. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator Haberman in his arguments against doing what is obviously the logical thing to do has mentioned that only a thousand some people are affected. Well, that's not the case. The 11,700 people in Red Willow County would all like to be in District 44 which is Senator Haberman's district. He should welcome them with open arms when they'd like to be in his district. Also, there is 9,700 people