

counties and two split counties. And I believe as we read that Supreme Court decision, they say that we should follow county lines where practical. In LB 614, the bill that we passed last year, there were six whole counties and five, five split counties, and LB 7, as with its latest amendment, contains seven whole counties and four split counties. I feel that this plan is not unconstitutional. There is no way to avoid a sitting senator representing one district from voting for another senator in the general election. Under this plan, the current senator from District 18 will be able to vote in the general election for District 19, or Senator Schellpeper may even petition to be on the ballot. And the two successful primary candidates would also have to petition in according to the bill that we just passed the other day. Under LB 7, the current senator representing District 21 will be able to vote in the general election for District 19, or legally petition onto the ballot. The other day I asked Senator Conway whether he could show me, in the Supreme Court's decision, how soon District 21 or Madison County needed to...needed to elect their senator, and, as of now, I have not received that information. But when I read that decision, it did not have a timetable. Also when the Attorney General asked the district court judge what timetable there was, there was no timetable given. So I think we certainly have time to do this. Like I said earlier, I would like to preserve our election process here in Nebraska and let the candidates figure out on that. Also in this handout that I gave to you, there is a map of northeast Nebraska pertaining to these three districts. We do not touch District 17, which is changed a little bit in LB 7. Also, the last page of the handout contains the population figures and they come out very good. District 18 has 32,655 people. That is a plus 1.38 percent deviation; District 19, 32,366. That has a plus .38 percent deviation; and District 40, 32,585 with a plus 1.16 percent deviation. I believe that is about all I will say about this amendment at the present time. If you have any questions, I will certainly try to answer them for you. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. I think probably to no one's surprise I am not going to support this amendment. If you look at what Senator Hefner is trying to do this morning, it is, basically, the same amendment that he had the other day. What it does, it puts District 18, it puts