

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I agree that this is a more compact plan. But getting back to my philosophy of trying to protect the two candidates that were successful in the primary election. This, again, legislates them out, and I think that's unfair. But if that's what this body wishes to do, well, I'm sure that you're inviting a lawsuit. And with our track record here, I'm sure we'll lose. So, I'm going to oppose this plan. I thought about offering an amendment changing 18 and 19 around, putting Legislative District 18 into Madison County, and putting 19 back up in the other counties. But there again we leave one of the candidates out, we leave De Carlson out that's in Crofton, located in Knox County. Also, in this particular plan only one precinct or one township out of Knox County is in District 18, and the rest of it is in District 40. Looks to me like Cuming County is split four ways, Wayne County two ways, and Dixon County two ways. I think I had a better plan this morning, but that's beside the point. So, I just want to voice my objection to this map, because we're cutting out two candidates, and I don't think that's fair.

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

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I just simply rise to support the amendment by Senator Conway. I think that we, with that amendment, have squared away some of the lines that people have difficulty with. It really has no effect on my district, it still remains the same. And we can't, we can't construct my district with all of Knox County in it because it would just put too many people in there. We have to take that precinct out. And I don't think there's any other way to get around that. Either take one out there, or take it out some place else. So the district has about as least damage as it can actually have. With this amendment I think we are looking squarely at the requirements of the court. I think we've said we will provide Madison County with its own district, we'll give it the odd number, they'll have their election this year, they'll have their representative here in this Legislature next January. And, sure, we've disenfranchised two people, but there is no other plan we can do that won't disenfranchise somebody. And if you change the figures around, put 18 and 19, and vice