

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 13, 2003

little closer to your mike. I'm having trouble hearing you.

SENATOR MOSSEY: On the communities of interest,...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right.

SENATOR MOSSEY: ...was that part of the consideration in the caucus moves? Am I correct?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is that part of the consideration? Oh sure. That would be the main consideration.

SENATOR MOSSEY: Okay. Then I guess my follow-up question would be, from the 2000 Census, I represent approximately 44,000 people, with the community of interest closest to me being Omaha, and I'm also in the 2nd Congressional District. That's why I was just curious how that...if that came into play.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah, I think that you're one of those cases that's on the edge...

SENATOR MOSSEY: Um-hum.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and you could go either way. Senator Hartnett will remember that he was part of our caucus for most years, until just recently, and what happened was Senator Mines and that district became more urbanized and it's my understanding that the metropolitan area caucus wanted Senator Mines included there. That caucus also wanted 16 members. So in the process of trying to, you know, negotiate and work things out, the only way they could have Senator Mines come down and have 16 members was for somebody to go to our district. So we took...

SENATOR MOSSEY: Exactly.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...the closest, most logical person, which was you.

SENATOR MOSSEY: Okay. Being new and everything, I'm just curious on how the rules work.