

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Adkins at 12:12 p.m. on March 26, 2001 in Room 531-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

- Senator David Corbin - excused
- Senator Anthony Hensley - excused
- Senator Ed Pugh - excused
- Senator Ruth Teichman - excused

Committee staff present:

- Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
- Mary Ann Torrence, Revisors of Statutes Office
- Debby Fleming, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

None

Others attending:

See attached guest list

Chairman Adkins called upon Mary Galligan, Principal Analyst for the Kansas Legislative Research Department to brief the committee on the draft copy of Proposed Technical Portion of Committee Rules. (Attachment 1) Ms. Galligan addressed each item which included:

- All redistricting plans submitted will be made part of the public record
- The Committee will hold public hearings at several locations throughout the state
- Notices of all Committee meetings and hearings will be posted consistent with the House and Senate rules
- Procedure for submission of plans prepared outside the Legislature, fully describing the electronic and hard copy requirements that plans must meet for technical verification to the Kansas Legislative Research Department
- Requirements for Staff review of plans including the technical minimum standard any plan submitted must meet
- The role of the Kansas Legislative Research Department in the redistricting process

Additionally, Ms. Galligan discussed “block equivalency” portion of the technical rules. A census block is the smallest unit of geography that the Census Bureau uses for data collection and reporting. There are more than 170,000 census blocks in the State of Kansas each of which has a district identifier. Thus if electronic files of plans are submitted in this form, they can be used in the Legislature’s redistricting software. This was the explanation for the information needed to be submitted with each plan in a flat text file. All plans must contain every single block in the state and a district assignment for each block.

Committee questions and discussion followed.

Chairman Adkins asked the Committee to consider these suggested rules and to contact him if they had further questions or comments.

Mary Galligan next briefed the Committee on the census at which time she distributed Kansas 2000 Population (Attachment 2) and a map titled KANSAS–Metropolitan Areas, Counties, and Central Cities (Attachment 3) to the Committee and explained each document.

Ms. Galligan addressed all of the population figures listed and informed the Committee that the Census Bureau categorizes Hispanic population as an ethnic group, not as a racial group. She explained there are white Hispanics, black Hispanics, Asian Hispanics and so on and the figures displayed on Attachment 2 are Hispanic and non-Hispanic population. Additionally, the Census Bureau had done something new in the 2000 Census in that people were allowed an opportunity to identify themselves as belonging to more

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT at 12:12 p.m on March 26, 2001 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

than one racial group. Ms. Galligan's presentation on the population breakdown in congressional districts included use of Attachment 3.

Committee questions and discussion followed.

Chairman Adkins thanked Mary Galligan for her presentation before the Committee.

Chairman Adkins summarized the future for the Committee and how it might be integrated along with the House Select Redistricting Committee into a special committee appointed for summer interim study on this topic. The special committee tentatively would begin its work in May with hearings around the state, continue with work on the congressional boundaries to be completed by September, and finally working with the recalculated numbers provided by the Secretary of State to draw plans for the House and Senate districts. The Chairman requested committee members contact him if there were items they wanted access to or discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2001 or upon announcement.