

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING**

May 29, 2001

Kansas City Kansas Community College  
Flint Building

**Members Present**

Senator David Adkins, Chairman  
Senator David Haley  
Senator Anthony Hensley  
Representative Lisa Benlon  
Representative Troy Findley  
Representative Broderick Henderson  
Representative Doug Mays  
Representative Bill Reardon  
Representative Bob Tomlinson

**Other Legislators in Attendance**

Senator Mark Gilstrap  
Senator Kay O'Connor  
Representative Marti Crow  
Representative Margaret Long

**Conferees**

Steven Maynard-Moody, PhD, Professor, Public Administration and Interim Director of  
the Policy Research Institute, University of Kansas  
Michael Boatright, Citizen  
Marylin White, Citizen  
Louis Ruiz, Citizen

**Staff Attending**

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Cindy O'Neal, Committee Secretary

## **Others Attending—see guest list**

Chairman David Adkins called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. He proceeded to explain that public hearings are the beginning of the redistricting process in Kansas as every ten years states are mandated to redraw Congressional districts, House and Senate legislative districts, and State School Board districts. He further explained census numbers for the Congressional districts are already known.

The numbers for the legislative districts are not known at this time. State law mandates that legislative districts be drawn using adjusted numbers with students and the military reallocated back to their official residence. The adjusted numbers will be available to the Legislature by the Secretary of State on July 31, 2001. Once the adjusted information is received, the legislators can start drawing Legislative and State School Board districts. The history of the process has been that the House will draw the House districts and the Senate will draw the Senate districts. It is the hope of the Redistricting Committee that all maps are pre-filed before the 2002 Legislative Session. If the maps are approved by the Legislature, they will be sent to the Governor for his approval and then to the state courts for the final approval.

The Chairman informed those at the hearing that the Kansas Legislative Research Department has set up a Kansas Redistricting Web Site which provides numerous amounts of information about the redistricting process, proposed maps, and public hearings. The web site address is <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/ksleg/KLRD/redistr.htm>.

Steven Maynard-Moody gave a power point presentation (Attachment 1).

- The Census Bureau performed a 100 percent count of the population in the United States in 2000.
- Types of data that are available from the census are:
  - PL 94-171 which contains numbers of race, ethnicity, population over the age of 18, and total population;
  - Mini Profile provides age breakdowns, types of households, and owner v. rental occupancy; and
  - Summary File which contains more information from the short form.
- The Census Bureau produces estimates of population as well as the exact population count. Two examples were: in Barton County the estimated population does not closely model the population count, while in Douglas County the estimates closely matched the actual population.
- In Kansas, congressional districts currently fall along county boundaries in all except two counties: Marion and Douglas.

- For the first time, since the census has been done, the 2000 Census allowed individuals to choose more than one racial category. The Kansas population shows some diversity, although the population is predominately white (86 percent).
- Kansas experienced a moderate growth rate of 8.5 percent between 1990 and 2000. The United States as a whole experienced a 13.2 percent growth rate.
- The Hispanic population in Kansas showed tremendous growth between 1990 and 2000. The U.S. census data showed a 101.0 percent increase in Hispanic population.
- It is mandated that each Congressional district should have an equal population number. The ideal population for Kansas is 672,105. The 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional district must gain 34,435 individuals; the 2<sup>nd</sup> district must gain 30,718 individuals; the 3<sup>rd</sup> must lose 61,501 individuals; and the 4<sup>th</sup> district must lose 3,650 individuals to be in compliance with the “one man one vote” criteria.
- The districts must have “Communities of Interests,” *i.e.*, social, economic and population factors.
- Congressional districts should have compactness and contiguity.

Dr. Maynard-Moody continued with the power point presentation concentrating on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional district which includes Wyandotte, Johnson, Miami, and part of Douglas Counties (Attachment 2).

Senator Anthony Hensley and Representative Troy Findley provided the attendees with a proposed Congressional map for the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Districts (Attachment 3), along with a proposed Congressional map for the state (Attachment 4). Senator Hensley proceeded to give a Power Point Presentation in support of their plan (Attachment 5).

Michael Boatright is concerned that Kansas allows for the manipulation of census data and it may have occurred over many years. Mr. Boatright believes that it has been done to affect the amount of federal funds that are available to Kansas. He provided a handout which gave examples of the manipulation that he suspects is occurring (Attachment 6).

Marylin White appeared before the panel and requested that Wyandotte County remain in the 3<sup>rd</sup> district because the county has established neighborhoods as well as one of the most minority diverse counties in Kansas. Her concern is that if Wyandotte County

is divided between two Congressional districts the effect would be to dilute the strength of the community (Attachment 7).

Louis Ruiz commented that the Hispanic population is growing fast and he fears that in a few years they will not be represented fairly if the boundaries are changed.

The Committee meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Prepared by Cindy O'Neal  
Edited by Kathie Sparks

Approved by Committee on:

July 12, 2001  
(Date)