

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE, REDISTRICTING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND
SENATE RULES & REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

March 23, 2001
2:00 PM

FIELD TRIP - MEDFORD
Tapes 48 - 49

HOUSE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Rep. Carl Wilson, Chair
 Rep. Richard Devlin, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Dan Doyle, Vice Chair
 Rep. Dan Gardner
 Rep. Bill Garrard
 Rep. Steve March
 Rep. Joanne Verger
 Rep. Cheryl Walker

OTHER HOUSE Rep. Bates
MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Morgan

HOUSE
MEMBERS EXCUSED: Rep. Bruce Starr

SENATE RULES AND REDISTRICTING
MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Steve Harper, Chair
 Sen. Jason Atkinson

SENATE
MEMBERS EXCUSED: Sen. Peter Courtney, Vice Chair
 Sen. Lee Beyer
 Sen. Kate Brown
 Sen. Randy Miller
 Sen. John Minnis

STAFF PRESENT: Cara Filsinger, Administrator, House Rules, Redistricting and Public Affairs
 Craig Allen, Administrator, Senate Rules and Redistricting

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **REDISTRICTING – PUBLIC HEARING**

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 48, A		
003	Chair Wilson	Opens the meeting at 2:02 p.m. Explains the changes in the census numbers. Explains that there could be two house districts now in Medford.
025		Staff distributes (EXHIBIT A) .
027		Committee members introduce themselves.
047	Chair Wilson	Point out the handouts and the statutory criteria being used for

051	Senator Steve Harper	the composition of the new districts. District 30. Explains that the House is working on the legislative side that includes the house and senate districts. Adds that the Senate is handling the congressional side. Discusses the growth of population in Southern Oregon. States that Congressman Walden's district is over-populated by 17,000 which means his district will shrink by this number. Explains that the testimony given will assist in the reapportionment.
064	Representative Susan Morgan	House District 46. Introduces herself.
069	Chair Wilson	Asks witnesses to introduce themselves.
080	Treva Tumbelson	Resident of Ashland, represented by Senate District 26, House District 52, and Congressional District 2. Comments that 17,000 is the size of the City of Ashland. Requests that Ashland be part of Congressional District 4 rather than with District 2. Adds that they have more in common with District 4 because they are urban. Asks to remain in House District 52 because they have more in common with Talent and Phoenix. States that they are a cultural mecca and tourism is more important than agriculture.
101	Jean Mack	Resident of Medford. Submits and reads a statement from Ray Fleetwood (EXHIBIT B). Asks that most of Medford remain in one representative's district. Adds that he would like a district that focuses on urban issues.
133	Mack	Believes that Medford should be one district.
143	Wilbur Layton	Resident on the Rogue River (District 46). Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT C). Comments on the population growth along I-5. Requests that urban and rural issues be separated. Adds that the identities of the two communities would be best served by establishing districts that preserve and enhance the two identities.
177	John Cooper	Lives in District 52. Expresses concern about splitting the community in two which may cause "disunity". Asks that the committee to look at the rural area around Trail and perhaps combine it with District 46.
216	Chair Wilson	Asks where Mr. Cooper lives.
218	Cooper	Replies that he lives west of Phoenix.
223	Sally Jones	Resident of Ashland. Requests that Ashland, Phoenix, and Talent be kept separate from Medford. Comments on industries in her area that have a different economic base from the city of Medford.
241	Representative Allan Bates	House District 52. Introduces himself.
234	Elise Smurzynski	Resident of Shady Cove. Reads a letter addressed to Representative Bates. Comments there are no common interests among the current districts of House District 46 and Senate District 23. Explains that Shady Cove feels more kinship with House District 52. Discusses why she feels the kinship with House District 52 and Senate District 26.
311	Barbara Davidson	Resident of Medford. Asks why Medford has to be split into two different districts which would cause a division.
331	Chair Wilson	Replies that Medford has a population of 63,000 and a House District may only have a target population of 57,000.
337	Davidson	Explains that many residential blocks appear to be in Medford when they are in fact not. Hopes that Medford can divide in an

366	Chair Wilson	even way if it must be done. Expresses hope that there could be further meetings with more testimony regarding redistricting.
372	Davidson	Asks for suggestions about how to divide Medford.
		Does not have any suggestions. Explains that after there are some numbers, she may have suggestions.
395	Representative Dan Gardner	House District 13. Introduces himself.
397	Representative Steve March	House District 15. Introduces himself.
408	Dave Define	Resident of Ashland. Explains that it is easy to define certain areas of interest among the small municipalities in Southern Jackson County. Discusses the transportation linkage to Medford. States that there are similarity in recreation, resource conservation, economic development, employment, transportation, public safety, and telecommunications. Asks the committee to keep together Ashland, Talent, the rural outskirts of these communities, and Phoenix. Explains that there is no commonality between his city and that of the furthest reaches of the 2 nd Congressional District. Suggests that his city be united with the lower Willamette Valley, and the Umpqua.
468	Senator Jason Atkinson	Senate District 25. Introduces himself.
472	Chair Wilson	Recesses meeting at 2:35 p.m.
TAPE 49, A		
029	Chair Wilson	Calls the meeting back to order at 2:50 p.m. Asks if anyone would like to testify before the committee. Calls attention to error in (EXHIBIT A) – Senate District 24 should be Senate District 25. Discusses future meeting dates in the communities.
048	Rep. Morgan	Asks if the recent census figures are posted on the web site.
051	Chair Wilson	Responds that he believes they are.
052	Rep. March	Recommends that citizens submit testimony in writing to the committee staff.
055	Chair Wilson	Adjourns the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Transcribed By,

Reviewed By,

Jennifer Goodman,
Committee Assistant

Cara Filsinger,
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A – Redistricting, redistricting handout, staff, 4pp.**
- B – Redistricting, written testimony, Ray Fleetwood, 1 p.**
- C – Redistricting, written testimony, Wilbur Layton, 1 p.**