

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE, REDISTRICTING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

April 13, 2001
9:00 AM

Hearing Room GRESHAM
Tapes 75 - 76

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Rep. Carl Wilson, Chair
Rep. Dan Gardner
Rep. Steve March

MEMBER EXCUSED:
Rep. Richard Devlin
Rep. Dan Doyle, Vice-Chair
Rep. Bill Garrard
Rep. Bruce Starr
Rep. Joanne Verger
Rep. Cheryl Walker

VISITING MEMBERS: Sen. Rick Metsger
Rep. Karen Minnis
Sen. John Minnis
Rep. Laurie Monnes Anderson

STAFF PRESENT: Cara Filsinger, Administrator
Annetta Mullins, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: Redistricting

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 75, A		
004	Chair Wilson	Calls meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Notes the handout on population growth in the area (EXHIBIT A). Explains process for redistricting.
023	Members	Introduce themselves.
	Chair Wilson	Explains that a record of today's proceedings is being created.
048	Lisa Naito	Multnomah County Commissioner. Advises that the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution (EXHIBIT B).
071	Sen. Minnis	Asks if the board had any idea how the line would be drawn.
	Naito	Responds that the commissioners did not go into detail.
090	Sen. Minnis	Comments that the suggested congressional district population is 684,000 persons and the resolution indicates Multnomah County has approximately 660,000 and therefore appears to be close to one congressional district. States that if the suggestion is to cut Multnomah County to have two districts, it would be helpful to have a suggestion on how to divide the county.
103	Bob Wiggin	Gresham citizen. Comments that he called three cities to find out what their populations are. Gresham has 90,205, Troutdale has

		13,777, Fairview has 7,550, and Wood Village has 2,930. The cities' populations total 114,473. Suggests the cities be one district.
	Sen. Metsger	Asks if it would be better to have Gresham be represented by one or two senators.
136	Wiggin	Responds he believes one senator working with the four cities would be better.
124	Vickie Thompson	Gresham City Councilor. Advocates for one senator in District 11.
142	Bill Willmes	Responds he sometimes thinks two senators are better than one. East county needs representation. Believes they are well represented by Sen. Minnis and Rep. Monnes Anderson. The U. S. Senate and House districts should remain the same.
165	Mae Huston	Asks that the committee consider boundaries of cities, schools, etc. that already exist.
203	Richard Fonseca	Oregon Latino Voter Registration Program. Comments he feels that the Latino community should not be divided.
206	Robert Brady	Gresham resident and businessman and representative for the Gresham Chamber of Commerce. The chamber supports a single district. Their interests have been well represented. Their community differs significantly from their neighbors.
219	Rep. March Brady	Asks if the chamber is only Gresham businesses. Responds that the chamber consists of members from all over the area, particularly the four cities.
227	Gussie McRobert	Gresham resident. States that nothing is broken. Notes that 114,000 is an ideal district and asks that the district be left as it is. States the four cities have a long history of working together and there is an advantage of having small cities where all elected offices are volunteers. Also, it is easier to have one representative to go to.
256	Terry Reynolds	Gresham resident and school board member. Comments on not learning about the meeting except for a call from Rep. Monnes Anderson. States that it is incumbent on the legislature to make sure that the information about scheduled meetings is publicized. Asks that the area be kept this as one senate district. Concern is advertising of the meetings. Believes there would be more in attendance if the meetings were held during the evening hours.
325	Chair Wilson	Explains that a lot of effort was made by many means in advertising the meeting. Asks that Reynolds talk to staff for details.
326	Vern Cook	Resident of Troutdale. States his expertise is being a candidate for Senate District 28. States that the western line was the Troutdale city limits and the eastern line was the Idaho state border. Thinks the boundary of the district does not make sense. Lives in a little strip called Sandy Dell Road between the Troutdale city limits and the Sandy River. District also includes rural area east of Gresham up to the Clackamas County line and a piece in Clackamas County, including Timberline Lodge.
381		District 56, from which Patti Smith was elected, should be put back in one of the other districts. Corbett has quite a bit in common with Hood River and The Dalles. Believes it is not realistic to put that area back in a district with Multnomah County.
401		Area from Sandy River to the Job Corps is more associated with

Troutdale and Gresham than with Hood River and The Dalles. Suggests those portions of this district that lie south of the Sandy plus the small strip north of the Sandy to Dell Road be put back in the house district represented by the Minnis'. The eastern part is rural and the people are more associated with Gresham. That area should be put in the district represented by Rep. Monnes Anderson.

Beyond The Dalles the people are prejudiced against anyone from west of the Cascades. The piece of Clackamas County by Mt. Hood should be in the district represented by Sen. Metsger (District 14).

TAPE 76, A

017

Sen. Metsger

Asks if Cook has a preference for a community of interest with a geographic boundary of the Sandy River or the Multnomah County line.

Cook

Suggests Corbett be included in District 56 with Hood River and Wasco Counties. Those two counties are becoming more and more alike. Corbett is not much of a farming community. Corbett and Hood River are bedroom communities for Portland. Suggest drawing the line along the Sandy River at the bottom of the hill before going up Dell Road and just north of the road that leads to the Job Corps, and put the section going to the beginning of Rep. Minnis' district (District 20) and the remainder in Rep. Monnes Anderson's district (District 22).

056

Lloyd Culbertson

Gresham resident. States that business clubs in Gresham draw from all four cities and they would like to maintain them together. Comments on beliefs of former State Senator Glenn Otto.

079

Paul Thalhoffer

Mayor of Troutdale. Suggests keeping Senate District 11 the way it is.

The four cities work together pretty well. Agrees with Cook. Corbett should be in Sen. Minnis' district (House District 20) because there is a community of interest there. States that the entire Corbett area should be included in the same senate district.

118

Chair Wilson

Recesses the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Chair Wilson

Reconvenes the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

139

Richard Ross

Assistant Planning Director, City of Gresham. Comments that House Districts 20 and 22 have more population than the target. States that District 20 west of the Gresham city limits is in the city of Portland south of Highway 30 and Sandy Boulevard and is a densely populated area.

Districts 15 and 16 need more population and that would be a way to adjust the population in Districts 20 and 22. For adjustments to District 20 and 22, there could be minor adjustments along the current boundary, Stark Street.

166

Sen. Minnis
Ross

Asks if Pleasant Valley is being incorporated into Gresham. States the annexation is a future intention according to an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Portland. About 85 percent of the Pleasant Valley area will be incorporated into Gresham. Pleasant Valley does not have a huge population and if there is a way to include them, it would not hurt the numbers very much. Believes there are about 300 households and they are in District 10 currently.

	Sen. Minnis Ross	Asks if there are other annexations pending. Explains Pleasant Valley is the major one that is in the urban growth boundary and that is included in an intergovernmental agreement.
	Rep. Monnes Anderson Ross	Asks if there is incorporation whether it would be in District 56 and whether it would be to the east or south. Responds that Pleasant Valley is almost entirely within Multnomah County. Other areas in Clackamas County are further off for annexations. Damascus is not in the urban growth boundary. Pleasant Valley is on a 5- to 10-year track.
213	Sen. Minnis Ross	Asks if the area east of Pleasant Valley but north of the Clackamas County line is designated for growth. Responds it is being studied by Metro as a future growth area within a 20-year time frame. It would probably include everything south of the Gresham city limits in that area but not east of the Gresham city limits because that land is exclusive farm use land. The area between the Clackamas County line, the south Gresham city limits, and east of Pleasant Valley could be within a 20-year timeframe for some growth.
331	Rep. Minnis	Comments that she and Rep. Monnes Anderson must lose population in their districts. Comments she believes the four cities work well together and it would be good if some adjustments can be made to keep the communities of interest together.
245	Chair Wilson	Advises audience of means they may use to contact the staff and legislators.
250	Chair Wilson	Thanks the City of Gresham for their hospitality and adjourns meeting at 9:58 a.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Annetta Mullins,
Committee Assistant

Cara Filsinger,
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - Redistricting, handout, staff, 4 pp

B - Redistricting, Multnomah Co. Resolution, Lisa Naito, 1 p

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE, REDISTRICTING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

April 13, 2001
2:30 PM

Hearing Room WEST LINN
Tapes 77 -78

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Rep. Carl Wilson, Chair**
 Rep. Richard Devlin, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Dan Gardner

MEMBERS EXCUSED: **Rep. Dan Doyle, Vice-Chair**
 Rep. Bill Garrard
 Rep. Steve March
 Rep. Bruce Starr
 Rep. Joanne Verger
 Rep. Cherryl Walker

VISITING MEMBERS: **Rep. Jerry Krummel**
 Rep. Kathy Lowe
 Rep. Kurt Schrader

STAFF PRESENT: **Cara Filsinger, Administrator**
 Annetta Mullins, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **Redistricting**

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TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 77, a		
005	Chair Wilson Staff	Calls meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. Distributes handouts (EXHIBIT A).
	Chair Wilson	Explains the redistricting process.
046	Members	Introduce themselves.
053	Richard Meeham	Resident of Charbonneau. Notes that Charbonneau is in the Wilsonville city limits. States that the Willamette River divides Wilsonville with Charbonneau on one side and Wilsonville on the other. In early 70's it was determined Charbonneau would go into the Canby School District even though Wilsonville School District wanted them for revenue reasons. The children go to the Canby school system, yet all their information, telephone service, etc. reflects what is going on in Wilsonville because they are part of the City of Wilsonville. States that many of the activities they are interested in are in Canby. Feels it would be nice to be placed in the district with Wilsonville.
094	Rep. Kathy Lowe	House District 26. Introduces herself.
097	Jill Thorn	West Linn Resident and former Mayor. Comments on development in West Linn. Asks that cities not be split into multiple districts. Believes it is more efficient if a city has only

		one house representative.
137	Alice Richmond	West Linn resident. States that the population is increasing and the number of people who represent the citizens should also increase. States there should be a territory of West Linn and Tualatin and believes Wilsonville should be with somebody else. Adds that Sherwood is large enough that one person could cover it. Suggests that the lines should be reviewed every five years instead of the 10-year intervals at the time of the census.
203	Genie Uebelacker	Rural Milwaukie resident in District 25. States that District 25 should be retained because all the people have the same interest and think the same way. District 26 should retain Oregon City because the people in that area are involved in the same types of things.
223	Rep. Lowe	States that House Districts 25 and 26 are the same senate district. Asks why not split the senate district.
	Uebelacker	Responds that the people seem to think a like and it seems it would be a wise idea to not split the district because the people have been together and have the same interests.
220	Andre Bjornskov	Lake Oswego resident. Explains that Lake Oswego is split between two districts. Suggests Lake Oswego in its entirety be placed in one district because of common interests. Boones Ferry Road connects Lake Oswego and Lake Grove. There are no other geographic separations for the two parts of the city. Most of the city of Lake Oswego is in Clackamas County and he lives in an area represented by someone in Washington County. He would like to be represented by a representative in one county. Does not believe county lines should be used as criteria but the City of Lake Oswego should be in one district because of common interests. Lake Oswego has its own school district, water district, and sewer district that serves the entire city. Rather than being recognized as the City of Lake Oswego and Lake Grove, the area should be recognized as the City of Lake Oswego in all ways, including redistricting.
281	Rep. Devlin	Comments that Lake Oswego is in one district except for Mountain Park, the part of Lake Oswego that is in Multnomah County.
274	Tony Crawford	Canby resident and seventh grade teacher. Comments that Canby previously was in the "helicopter" district and had no relationship with the other communities. Comments on the creation of a new sport league that includes West Linn, Oregon City, Lake Oswego, and Gladstone. States that in his geography class they define "region" as a number of places that have common characteristics. Asks that the committee consider the physical and human geographic traits and characteristics that bring people together. Canby, Oregon City, and West Linn all traits and characteristics that make them similar.
369	Crawford	States that his seventh grade students recently resolved a boundary problem within the Canby School District; their proposal was adopted by the school board. Offers assistance of his class in redrawing boundaries.
354	Rep. Krummel	Introduces himself.
393	Jose Hernandez	Resident of House District 25. Ask that the committee consider the community of interest represented by Latinos in Clackamas County.

Quotes figures from *The Oregonian* on March 19, 2001. States the figures are not consistent with the statewide figures given the previous day. States he does not think it would be in their best interest to separate any of the districts. Believes the river should be a natural boundary for House Districts 25 and 26. Suggests that rather than moving the boundary northward, that the committee consider providing the balance of population for House District 25 from the north quadrant area. Believes the Latinos that represent a community of interest should remain under one House district and one Senate district if possible. Believes that as Latino issues are addressed, they must be left intact so they can begin to acquire positions within their jurisdictions and hopefully someday represent the remainder of their population.

TAPE 78, A

052

Doug Heeley

Oregon City resident. States that Oregon City shares water and sewer facilities with West Linn and Gladstone. Oregon City School District extends north into Jennings Lodge, south into Beavercreek, and into the Redland area. Oregon City Park and Recreation Department facilities are used by many people from the Beavercreek area and other areas south of Oregon City. Suggests the rural areas might be better served if the communities were in a given district and had the same representative and senator.

077

Charlotte Lehan

Mayor of Wilsonville. States that Wilsonville is split in many ways: by I-5, the Willamette River, county lines, it has two senate districts, and two representative districts, and three or four school districts. Being in two different counties is mostly a problem at the county level. It would also be nice to be in one school district. Does not see the concern with the senate and house legislative district splits because Wilsonville has a Republican senator and a Democratic senator, and a Republican representative and a Democratic representative. Adds that it would be fine if the city were in one district. Suggests if the city is split, each piece needs to have some population. Gives example where the city is split by Washington and Clackamas County. A significant amount of assessed value in the north end of Wilsonville is in Washington County and has only a couple of voters.

104

Greg Ellis

Lake Oswego resident. Explains experience in obtaining special services for autistic son and later finding out he was not in the Clackamas School District. Supports testimony of Bjornskov. Lake Oswego is a community of common interests and county lines should not be considered for purposes of redistricting. Lake Oswego should be in one district.

152

Rep. Devlin

Explains that former Secretary of State Keisling used the Multnomah County border and split the neighborhood in half and in some cases the backyard was in Clackamas County and the home was in Multnomah County. In two cases the houses were actually split. Adds that the former Secretary of State did not have much time to put the plan together.

158

Pamela Chasse

Tualatin resident. States that Tualatin is a split city. The Washington-Clackamas county line split the city, I-5 splits the city, and there are two school districts within the boundaries.

		Asks that the boundaries be left the way they are so they have the same house and senate district representative so they can go to one person in the legislature.
200	Dave Hunt	Jennings Lodge resident. Explains that the area between Jennings Lodge and Oregon City are in the same school district. Asks that the area not be divided. Elementary school children are in Oregon City schools and the middle and high school children are in the Gladstone schools. The districts have a good working relationship; the result is where the school buildings happen to be. Believes that dividing Gladstone and Oregon City would be a tragedy. Explains that there are six factors that tie Oak Grove to the community: relationships between school districts, media coverage, standards of living, transportation, civic perspectives such as the common Rotary foundation, and geographic factors. The river is a boundary that ties the areas together. Current districts are very good. Asks that the area not be harmed and that tinkering only be done where needed.
254	Rep. Schrader	Comments about cooperative efforts among the communities.
284	Barry Rotrock	Superintendent, Oregon City School District. Thinks the school partnerships, particularly between North Clackamas, Oregon City, and Gladstone, are dramatic and it would help to maintain that continuity. Adds that the school districts have programs that are shared.
307	John Williams	Mayor, Oregon City. States that Oregon City has been a partner with West Linn for 75 to 80 years on their water board. They are called the Tri-Cities Sewer District (Gladstone, West Linn, and Oregon City). Most of the school rivalries are West Linn, Oregon City, and Gladstone. Comments on patronizing businesses in their neighborhoods. Comments that growth is the biggest problem and Oregon City has more commonalties with Mollala and Canby than they do with West Linn and Gladstone. The common interests are in the core around the joining of the Clackamas and Willamette rivers.
310	Bob Stewart	School Superintendent, Gladstone School District. States he would like to echo Oregon City's comments. The partnerships between the three districts, North Clackamas, Gladstone, and Oregon City, are very profound and they are working on new initiatives. Having common representation keeps them working together. Encourages the committee to leave the boundary as it now exists.
327	Mick Dorance	Member, Gladstone School District Board. States that the comments have been made about keeping their district whole and agrees with the comments from Oregon City. States they are working on a common calendar and starting times. Students transfer back and forth. Would like to see the district kept whole to help them continue to work
370	Alice Richmond	together and provide the opportunities for the children. Questions the creation of the boundaries that created irregular shaped geographic districts.
449	Rep. Krummel	Comments on the irregular geographic shape of his legislative district.

Chair Wilson

Thanks West Linn for their hospitality and adjourns meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Annetta Mullins,
Committee Assistant

Cara Filsinger,
Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - Redistricting, handout, staff 4 pp