

These minutes contain materials which paraphrase and/or summarize
statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation
marks

report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the
proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RULES AND REAPPORTIONMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT

February 18, 1991 King NeighB orhood Facility 7:00 p.m. Portland, Oregon
Tapes 7 - 8

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Greg Walden, Chair Rep. Peter Courtney,
Vice-Chair Rep. Ray Baum Rep. Margaret Carter Rep. Ron Cease Rep. Tom
Mason Rep. Randy Miller

VISITING MEMBERS: Rep. Vera Katz Sen. Dick Springer

STAFF PRESENT: Adrienne Sexton, Committee Administrator Carol
Wilder, Committee Assistant

These minutes contain materials which paraphrase and/or summarize
statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation
marks report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the
proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE 7, SIDE A

003 CHAIR WALDEN: Calls the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Gives an overview of the subcommittee's mission, why they are holding
the regional meetings, and some of the requirements and responsibilities
the subcommittee faces as they begin the process of redrawing the
congressional and legislative district lines for the next ten years.

Have just received in the last week the census data from the Census
Bureau on computer tape. It is now being put up on the computer system,
although we do not have access to those data yet.

Turns the gavel over to Rep. Margaret Carter to chair the public
hearing.

070 REP. CARTER: Welcomes the subcommittee to the 18th District. Opens

the public hearing.

(Tape 7, Side A) PUBLIC HEARING

090 GLADYS MCCOY, MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSIONER: > Presently, Multnomah County has two congressional representatives. > Census numbers for Multnomah County has gone up since last census. > The two congressional representatives have been instrumental in getting federal dollars for the cities and counties. > Does not want to split up communities of interest and commonalities that bind communities together.

148 REP. MASON: You used the term "representative". I assume that you meant "congressman". MCCOY: I meant "congressman".

150 REP. CEASE: If you look at the population of the county, about 580,000, that would actually entitle us to one congressman if you simply had Multnomah County. I think our population is about 3,000,000 for the five seats. Are you suggesting that as we divide that up we should retain the boundaries in reference to the two congressional districts that we have parts of along the river? Do you think that the river should be the divider?

MCCOY: Thinks the river is an appropriate dividing line. If populations are shifted, they should be shifted on that side of the river, but not across the river.

165 MIKE LINDBERG, PORTLAND CITY COMMISSIONER: As a member of the City Council for 11-1/2 years and as a member of the Board of Directors of the National League of Cities had the opportunity to visit a number of other major metropolitan areas to look at their cities and become personally acquainted with the mayors and council members as well as become acquainted with common problems throughout the United States in the cities.

> All major metropolitan cities in the country have suffered greatly under the budget recommendations and adoptions that have occurred at federal level in the last ten years. Major urban areas have lost somewhere between 60-80% of the federal funding assistance during this last decade, at a time when we look at the problems of crime, drugs, transportation, housing, youth, and infrastructure where we really needed more help.

> In the past few years, our presidents have recommended more money go to foreign countries than go to cities throughout the United States.

> Of the 22 cities in the country with populations between 400,000 and 738,000, only two are represented by one member of Congress. In every other case, the cities are split into more than one Congressional district.

> Have had tremendous benefit by having two people in Congress representing the city of Portland. The two cities out of 22 who do not have two people in Congress have come out at the bottom of the list as far as federal aid and contracts with the federal government.

> Portland has a major port, the Center for International Trade, Portland International Airport, major transportation systems, and needs the help of the federal government.

> For these reasons, some special attention should be paid to the

critical nature of the Metropolitan area in terms of the economics of the state.

> We need this representation on the part of people representing cities' interests.

238 REP. CARTER: Asks Mr. Phillips to give the history in terms of how this district was affected ten years ago when it was reapportioned.

240 ROBERT PHILLIPS, SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE, ALLEN TEMPLE CME CHURCH:
> Gives brief history of House District #18 from the time of its creation in 1981. > Community feels need for political accountability from its representatives. > Wants district to remain intact. > Wants continuation of the boundaries for Senate District #8 as a common community of interest. > Does not support any alterations of the district except those that would increase the population. > Need to assure congressional representation of two congressmen for this city. > Boundary lines should end at river.

360 BILL WEISMANN, DIRECTOR, OREGON ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESSIVE POLICY: > Legislature has an opportunity to affirm the commitment to African-Americans made in 1981. > There are significant increases in population of racial minorities in state. > There is currently no Latino representative in the Legislature. > There's been a significant increase in the Asian population in Multnomah County.

TAPE 8, SIDE A

007 ROBERT BOYER, ILWU-IBU, COLUMBIA DISTRICT COUNCIL: > Continually working for fairness. > Supports keeping our two federal representatives, two House seats, one state senator in this community. > Asks what workers can do to make fairness in community. > Many Asians and Hispanics in the community cannot read or understand the Census forms. > There's been a tremendous loss of African-American males who have been arrested and no longer have a residence in this community. > Have homeless, hopeless, jobless, faithless who have constantly moved around trying to find someplace to stay. > Need federal funds. > Supports present boundaries.

075 JOSE' MATA: > Should keep District 18 intact; may add to it but don't dilute it. > Preserve voting strength of southeast Asian population. > Multnomah County has the largest number of Hispanics in the state--should look at the distribution of Hispanics throughout the County for opportunities to build on that voting strength.

100 CHAIR WALDEN: Our next hearing is in Woodburn Thursday night. We have contacted the Hispanic Commission and asked for their testimony.

110 SHEILA HOLDEN, BLACK LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: > No changes or reapportionment that dilute the voice and opportunity for representation that currently exists for urban northeast Portland. > This community's goals and objectives for the establishment of District 18 continue to be used as guidelines to maintain an urban intercity voice that represents the cosmopolitan makeup of east Portland. > District 18 provides the only opportunity for such representation in our state.

138 BARUTI ARTHAREE, PRESIDENT, COAST INDUSTRIES: > Represents small business interests in northeast Portland. > Concerned about how boundary lines are drawn on the congressional level. > Do not want to see the voting strength of the African- American community in northeast Portland diluted or impacted in any way.

167 INGRID STEVENS, DISTRICT 12: > District 12 is a diverse district in southeast Portland. > Maintain southern boundary which is the county line. > District 12 has urban focus; Clackamas County is more rural and has different focus.

212 REP. MASON: What's the big issue that divides Milwaukie from Portland?

STEVENS: > People in Milwaukie don't like to see themselves as some kind of extra appendage. They focus on Milwaukie and Clackamas County, and that's very different from the concerns and interests of Multnomah County. > Retain southern boundary intact.

230 REP. MASON: Isn't there a proposed extension to light rail down through Milwaukie?

STEVENS: That's one of the proposals and I have no idea how long that could take before there's enough funding to bring that in. If the light rail did go down there, it would most definitely reorient the focus of Milwaukie to Portland.

245 ED WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT, NAACP: > Has fought very hard to get what they've got in this district and does not want to lose it. > Does not want district divided.

260 BRUCE BROUSSARD: > Participated in 1981 in setting up boundaries for present district. > Would like to receive more money for economic development.

287 BOB GOLDSTEIN: >No county lines should be violated in the congressional matter, except for three counties in Portland area. > Eastern Oregon should have three voices in Congress. > Proposes tier concept with each tier representing approximately 20%.

420 REP. CARTER: Asks that he put this in writing.

GOLDSTEIN: I intend to follow this through when you have hearings and submit to you those maps and use the work stations with the aid of certain legislators. I will present to you a plan that would not fail and would help every Oregonian congressionally.

REP. CARTER: The Chairman, I'm sure, would love to have that.

GOLDSTEIN: I will be happy to give it to you as a gift because I want to see you people succeed. Whether the Senate is going to concur is another story. It's easier to draw five congressional districts first than it is 60. As far as representation for the minorities is concerned in the state legislative races, I think that should occur afterwards.

TAPE 7, SIDE B

015 REP. CARTER: Thanks the committee for coming to northeast Portland

area. Asks for further testimony. There being none, turns the meeting over to Chair Walden.

025 CHAIR WALDEN: Thanks Rep. Carter for helping to organize hearing and contacting the people in the community. Next hearings will be in Lincoln City on Wednesday evening, Thursday in Woodburn, and Saturday in Medford.

Adjourns the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Submitted by: Reviewed by:

Carol Wilder Adrienne Sexton Assistant Administrator