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statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation
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report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the
proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RULES AND REAPPORTIONMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT

February 23, 1991 South Medford High School 4:00 p.m. Medford, OR Tape 11

MEMBER PRESENT: Rep. Larry Campbell

VISITING MEMBER: Rep. John Watt

STAFF PRESENT: Adrienne Sexton, Committee Administrator

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TAPE 11, SIDE A

007 REP. WATT: Calls the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Gives an overview of the subcommittee's mission 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.

050 REP. CAMPBELL: Gives an overview of the field meetings and why they
were held where they were.

The key is that the people in this state have equal representation. We
want to make sure you have the same representation by numbers of people
to representative, by numbers of people to senator, or by numbers of
people to congressmen that everyone else in the state has. The reason
that we make the adjustments is because of the growth or the lack of

growth in certain areas.

110 REP. WATT: Asks Adrienne Sexton to read into testimony a letter from Congressman Bob Smith.

112 ADRIENNE SEXTON, ADMINISTRATOR: This is in response to a letter that was sent to all of the congressional delegation from Rep. Greg Walden, Chair of the Committee on Legislative Rules and Reapportionment, recently asking the members to participate in the field meetings if they have an opportunity to do so. Reads letter dated February 21, 1991, from Congressman Smith (EXHIBIT A).

135 LOU HANNUM, PRESIDENT, MEDFORD CITY COUNCIL: Submits written testimony in favor of establishing one representative district for the city of Medford (EXHIBIT B).

210 REP. WATT: With three representatives, don't you feel you would have more people working for you as opposed to having one?

HANNUM: No, because when we have dealt with specific problems, the representatives that we're talking to have to share with us the concerns they have for the people outside of the city which might or might not be in conjunction with it. It made it difficult for the representatives to try to do that, and as a result we did not feel that we particularly were better off by having three. The situation that the legislator was put in did not help to understand our particular problems.

232 REP. CAMPBELL: Political data is not important to reapportionment from our perspective. We don't look at political data in our determination.

HANNUM: I just wanted to be sure that you see it and know that it was not in our consideration.

235 REP. CAMPBELL: I'm looking at the map and you indicate three districts. I only show Districts 50 and 51 in Medford. Is District 52 also included?

HANNUM: Yes, the material shows District 52 as having four precincts in the city of Medford, but it does help to split it up somewhere.

245 REP. CAMPBELL: I'm pleased that you provided the information because I didn't think that the city had near enough population to meet a full district.

HANNUM: I took the census information for the state, divided that by 60 and got 47,372. The city of Medford is 46,961, only 411 people different.

255 DRENON CARLYLE, CITIZEN: > Political considerations not considered in this testimony. > Summarizes political party representatives in area districts. > Main concern is that southern Oregon keep its rural flavor and receive representation in the house and senate of our state.

315 KIP LOMBARD, CITIZEN: > Got single-member districting in Oregon as a result of lawsuit challenging the reapportionment plan drawn up by Secretary of State Clay Myers in 1971.

TAPE 11, SIDE B

028 (Kip Lombard, continues): > For legislative redistricting, keep Cascade line. > Keep Jackson and Josephine Counties in 2nd Congressional District.

087 REP. CAMPBELL: You would have to move both lines a very small amount to accomplish redistricting. The only areas you would have a major change in would be the Tri-County Area where Multnomah County has lost population; Clackamas and Washington has gained substantially. With that in mind, having gone through it in 1981, how much time do you think we should spend redrawing lines in the rest of the state?

LOMBARD: Personally, I think very little. I would say, do what you have to do to achieve your percentages and your legally allowable variances. You'll get down to where you have pushed the numbers in all the places that you can and you're going to end up with a district that just isn't going to fit any logic at all. Unfortunately, that was our helicopter district. It's got to be the most difficult district in the state to represent simply because of the access in and out of it. I would listen to the people in that area. People tend to get used to the people they're dealing within their boundaries. I don't think, for instance, that you could totally carve out a 52nd district without taking in part of the city of Medford. I just don't think the population is there. To maintain contiguity of district lines, you're going to have to take either southern parts of Medford or eastern parts of Medford. I don't see any other way. But the numbers will drive those.

150 TREVA TUMBLESON, CITIZEN: > Wants more minority representation in the 2nd District. > Concurs with opinions of Medford City Council to give attention to Medford metropolitan center. > A more unified representation would be more beneficial to Ashland area.

157 REP. CAMPBELL: Where are you from?

TUMBLESON: Ashland.

159 REP. CAMPBELL: Did you feel you were better served as part of the 4th Congressional District than the 2nd?

TUMBLESON: Yes, because our interests as a college town and a tourist center coincided more with those of Eugene.

165 KATHY BECKETT, JACKSON COUNTY CLERK: > In 1981, current maps were not used which did not take annexations into account and caused precinct splits. > Take into account the city and school district boundaries.

190 REP. CAMPBELL: You have identified those spots. Can you make those available to us? I don't know how the committee is going to end up redrawing the lines, but I, for one, favor as few changes as possible because the more changes you make the more difficulty you create. I think it is very important for the thing that you're talking about, and I know that a number of the county clerks feel the same way. We are asking that they provide that information to us so that it is available to the committee as we redraw so we identify the problems we already have.

BECKETT: I certainly will.

203 REP. CAMPBELL: A statement you made that is very important is that you need updated maps.

210 AL DENSMORE, CITIZEN: > Make as few changes as possible. > When plan is enacted, communicate the resulting names of members to the affected public.

232 ROBERT CROWLEY, CITIZEN: > Keep counties whole. > Will the public be informed of a final draft and have the opportunity to comment?

255 REP. CAMPBELL: Actions of the Oregon Legislature are visible and participatory, and as the process goes on the information will be shared in committees as in any other legislation we're working on. You'll have access as an individual to come up and testify. The reason we're down here is that it makes it a little easier for some people who can't come to Salem to testify. It is a very open process.

262 CROWLEY: Will we get any information coming back to us as a community as to what is going to take place and what changes are being considered? How else would we know to comment on that? > Would like to see the rural nature of our districts kept.

277 REP. CAMPBELL: I happen to be an urban-rural legislator; 35% of my district is Eugene, 65% of my district is rural Lane and Douglas County.

From my perspective, that gives you a requirement to represent the people in the state of Oregon both rural and urban. We get very parochial in our desires when we become the boundary lines of the city. It is extremely important for you as mayor to represent those folks. It's important for the 60 of us to represent the people in the state of Oregon. I'm not arguing against your proposal. I'm merely saying that there's another side, because we bring a perspective to government no matter where we come from in the state and our concerns have to be as much for you people in Medford when I live in Eugene, as light rail to Portland and the problems of eastern Oregon. We deal with those things on the committees that we deal with and we cannot have a parochial view. What we're really trying to do is get numbers of people represented in the same manner, and that's a representative for every 47,321 people. We try, wherever possible, to maintain other boundary lines. One of the problems you have is you almost have to start from one place in the state if you're going to redraw the lines and everything else moves. We could end up redrawing every line in the state if we did that kind of thing. We'll have to have key considerations as we redraw the lines.

315 REP. WATT: Adjourns the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Reviewed by:

Carol Wilder Adrienne Sexton Assistant Administrator

EXHIBIT LOG:

- A - Testimony on Redistricting - Congressman Bob Smith - 1 page
- B - Testimony on Redistricting - Lou Hannum - 6 pages