

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

January 20, 1983

The eleventh meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Pete Story on January 20, 1983 at 10:30 in room 325, the former Supreme Court, of the Capitol in Helena, Montana.

ROLL CALL: Roll was called and all members were present.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4:

A RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA TRANSMITTING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION REGARDING ITS REDISTRICTING PLAN SUBMITTED UNDER ARTICLE V, SECTION 14, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION.

CHAIRMAN STORY addressed the group before him by stating that they are required by the constitution to make a reply to the Reapportionment Commission. This is SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4.

SENATOR KOLSTAD introduced SR 4 in behalf of SENATOR STEVENS saying that this is a reapportionment bill and called attention to the lower part of page 2, line 6 refers to modifications and recommendations of the reapportionment plan as it applies to the proposed senate districts. He stated that those recommendations and modifications will come as a result of testimony today and asked that this committee be opened for several days for additional testimony.

CHAIRMAN STORY stated that this resolution will be acted on friday after next, January 28th, 1983, which gives time for floor action and that they would be taking any testimony up until that time.

CHAIRMAN STORY asked a show of hands of those who wish to speak in favor of the apportionment plan as presented.

GENE MAHONEY, Chairman of the Reapportionment Commission addressed the group stating they are a proper legal commission and the constitution provides the majority leadership appoint two and the minority leadership appoint two people and they have 20 days to select the fifth member, who automatically becomes the chairman and if they cannot agree then it is up to the Supreme Court. He stated that he was appointed by the Supreme Court. All their hearings are open. Tried to keep everyone informed mailing out maps and all information. Although the commission has not always agreed, they have agreed more than disagreed. He stated that they are not happy with

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results in the western Montana districts and ask your recommendations.

CHAIRMAN STORY asked if there were members of the Legislature there that had other hearings to go to.

SENATOR KERMIT DANIELS, District 14 spoke in behalf of the proposed districts of 49 and 50 which constitutes district 25, which is my second choice. He said that his first choice is with Phillipsburg, which is 49 and 68 together, but in behalf of proposed senate district 25, there is a community interest between Big Fork and Deer Lodge, as they are both interested in tourism, they have timber industry and agriculture. He also said that they have good highways in the proposed district.

SENATOR MATT HIMSL, District 9 of Flathead County, said that Big Fork is not in his district but is in his county and that they have a concern. He stated that both Big Fork and Deer Lodge have good people but completely different life styles. Big Fork has exotic farmers like christmas trees, mint, etc. They have artists, craftsmen...it is a Bohemian type of village, tranquil, some say dull, but peaceful. Deer Lodge is on the other hand, rugged, a Jane Fonda type of area, that is kind of a combat zone. They fight for something and then they fight against it. Senator Himsl stated, that if you combine Big Fork, District 50 and 51 you put the lakeshore in with Polson, and it does put the Indian Reservation in with a part of that. He stated that he would suggest to put those two areas together.

SENATOR J. D. LYNCH, District 44, said that both of his house members will remain his house members and with their encouragement he is testifying asking the commission to accomodate the problem areas.

SENATOR NORMAN spoke in favor of the present plan for Missoula county. He stated that they now have four senators, actually they do have four and a half, the population has drained away to the east and the west and much talk of disparity, life styles and how they should be grouped together. He encouraged them to maintain county lines. If they keep draining population away from Missoula county there may be an undesirable affect, Missoula county will come to dominate the surrounding small counties. You will have more Missoula senators than you desire. There is now 79,000 population and should be entitled

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to five senators, but this plan probably best accomodates everyone. He encouraged the support of the plan they have now and give them four senators wholly within Missoula county.

SENATOR JOE MAZUREK, District 16, expressed his support for the plan as it is. That as far as the house districts, numbers and their locations he believes there is bipartism support in Helena.

SENATOR HARRY BERG, District 21, Great Falls, stated he wanted to go on record in support of the proposed plan. He stated that in Great Falls, the city itself with the reapportionment of the senate districts, it does turn out that there are three that are presently state senators from Great Falls.

SENATOR DAVE FULLER, District 15, Helena, stated they are pleased and confirmed what Senator Mazurek said.

SENATOR JOHN MOHAR, District 11, said that considering the loss in his part of the state he felt the commission did a good job of reappointioning Lincoln County as they put most of the county into the new Senate District 1.

JOE LAMSON, executive secretary of the Montana Democratic Party, testified saying that his party as well as the Republicans have been following the process of reapportioning and that the press has concentrated on the disagreements within the commission and within the areas. Most all of the urban counties in Montana had bipartisan agreement. Only in Billings did we see the different parties lining up on different urban plans. He stated that the democratic party does support the house districts as they are but as far as the senate adjoinments, they are also not pleased with the Big Fork situation but the committee will have to realize that when they start to realign those there will be changes. Overall he stated that they think it is a good plan.

REPRESENTATIVE JIM JENSEN, District 66, stated he was there to support the district plans prior to the way they were prior to yesterdays state administration hearing in the House. He is a democrat in this district that has been eliminated by this process, and there was one representative that did not live in his district and asked to be included in that district. Representative Jensen submitted his proposed changes as EXHIBIT 1.

REPRESENTATIVE RAY LYBECK, District 16, the Big Fork area, and stated that he agrees with Senator Himself.

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JANET MOORE, director of public affairs in Seely-Condon Chamber of Commerce, stated that they were supporting the plan. She stated that though you never hear of Condon, Montana, it is by the Lake County line and that they would like to stay in Missoula County.

SENATOR STORY asked for testimony from those who would like to suggest changes, starting with Legislators who have other hearings. Those testifying now are considered opponents.

SENATOR HAFEEY, Senate District 45, stated that the suggestions he has would not meet with disapproval by those supporting the plan. He stated that Granite County is represented and would probably suggest this same thing, and first of all, Deer Lodge County that contains the district he now represents, in the 1980 census has about 12,500 people; Granite County has 2,700. Not only the numbers are compatible with what will be the two house districts but community of interests as being one so that that would really mean that there is about 15,300 people in those two counties using county lines that would form two House districts. Presently under the House district plan, districts 68 and 69 would form one compatible Senate district and suggested this to be very compatible for Deer Lodge County and Granite County. If that is not done, Deer Lodge County will probably be in the position of not having residents who serve in the seat when even the county limits itself to have more than enough people to make up one and one-half House districts. Ann Brodsky has a number of alternatives which could remedy the situation under the tentative plan which calls for one of Deer Lodge being combined with Silver Bow, while the other is combined with total Granite County,---combine 68 and 69 as proposed into one Senate district, which would be Granite and Deer Lodge County. This would cause a limited ripple that would move around western Montana. One way of remedying the Bigfork Powell County thing will also accommodate the interests of Deer Lodge and Powell County. He stated, that a third point is that, and he preferred to Senator Stimatz, the ripple, as it would go around would affect Silver Bow County and its five districts, but thinks that could be accommodated as well in a manner that would limit the interests of the people in Silver Bow County.

SENATOR AKLESTAD, Senate District 6, in north central Montana, distributed maps. He stated that he is opposing what he believes is the proposed Senate District 5, which would encompass Glacier, Toole and Liberty counties, also opposing that Senate district on the grounds that he does not believe the Commission followed the criteria established.

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The Commission changed at the very last minute, at one of their last meetings, the apportionment plans due to political pressure or whatever. Senator Aklestad referred to the map of his proposed change. He stated that the reservation is divided and that this would put the entire reservation back together for a Senate district. Secondly, we would be putting back a small town and county seat, Cut Bank, at least back in the Senate District. He stated that the proposal (Exhibit 2) would also follow the criteria of existing boundaries. He stated that there is no ripple effect to this plan but merely moving one line and switching the House districts to make a Senate district. He stated that he would submit that this plan follows the criteria in which the Commission was to operate under far closer than the proposed plan and would like to emphasize that this plan was adopted by the Commission up to its last hearing or two.

SENATOR ED SMITH, District No 1, the northeast Montana area, testified with suggested changes as stated in his testimony handed in as EXHIBIT 3.

SENATOR MARK ETCHART, District 2, stated that he was speaking in opposition to the plan as presented and basically here to endorse the plan for the northeast corner presented by Representative Chet Solberg. He stated that in his handout, EXHIBIT 4, the first page is a letter which he sent to Chet Solberg after he presented the plan and had a chance to look at it. It outlines his points of support for his plan and where he feels it's superior over the plan presented by the Commission. The second sheet is a copy of the present House and Senate districts as we now have them. The third sheet has the Solberg plan. He stated that he would like to point out that if you would revert to the third sheet that the Solberg plan would take the four representative districts in the Northeast corner and confine them to the four counties north of the Missouri River by adding the north part of McCone County where the Northwest corner of McCone County naturally goes into Glasgow because the Missouri River is bridged at Fort Peck Dam so the Northwest McCone goes into Glasgow. He said that they maintain the basic integrity of the Missouri River and follow the historical precedent of creating the highline as an entity. He said he believes they violated the Missouri River in Roosevelt County and those north of Richland County. In so doing they worked down the Yellowstone River and instead of going counter clockwise, they went clockwise down the Yellowstone.

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SENATOR FRED VAN VALKENBURG, District 50, stated that he wished to go on record in opposition to the Commission proposal but does so with great reluctance as he feels it is the best proposal for Missoula County and for the Democrats in that county. It may cause problems for Missoula but is in the best interest for the state. He proposed that the combination of House district 66 and 67 in southern Ravalli and Beaverhead counties be combined to form a Senate district which would allow proposed House District 50 to be combined with a district to its immediate west, House District 51. He stated that would solve one of the more serious problems with the present Senate districts. It would also let House District 49, Powell County, be combined with proposed House District 48 in Granite County. This meets with the second desires of Senator Daniels and also meets the objections of Senator Himsel and those in Bigfork and Flathead County area. It will have the effect of preserving four Senate seats within Missoula County. He stated that it would solve three problems and create one, a combination of southern Ravalli and Beaverhead.

SENATOR ECK, Senate District 39, opposed the plan and stated that she is the district in the state that has the largest deviation from the normal, although she is not complaining because ~~here~~ is a city district that is built up, stable and not growing and do not see as many problems there as in rural districts such as Gallatin which is bigger than it should be. Speaking for the county, she suggested the following proposals. The first is the rural area to the east in Gallatin County which makes up House Districts 76 and 79. They are counties in one district, represented by Senator Paul Boylan growing smaller geographically than it has been, and it would make more sense to keep those as one Senate district. Other recommendations would be on the western end of the county, keeping House District 80 with House District 44 which would mean you would have the area from Belgrade to Three Forks as one House district, the area up into Jefferson County as the other, making one Senate district which is again basically the same district we have now represented by Leo Lane. That would make a ripple effect. First would be that Madison County, which is one district, BEaverhead district which is another district, would be combined into a Senate district. That is what happens now and there doesn't seem to be a good reason for making those changes, and it is very confusing. He said it would make other ripples. It would be that 43 and 45 make up a district, East Helena and Helena east side. 48 and 49 another district, west Helena valley and Powell. District 51 and 50 would be Bigfork and the north end of Lake County; 52 and 55, southern Lake County into Missoula; and 68 and 57 would be Granite County going in toward Missoula. The loser is Missoula. This would give us two Senate districts in Gallatin County, basically what we have now and half of another Senate district. EXHIBIT 5.

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REPRESENTATIVE NORDTVEDT, district 77, Bozeman, spoke in opposition saying he had two items; first in response to the recommendation of Senator Eck, I think there is a serious problem with that proposal from the point of view of Gallatin's economic impact. Gallatins, number one, have cultural and two economic activities M.S.U. and agriculture. I think Senator Eck's proposal would reduce from three to two the number of senators who have a direct interest in the interests of M.S.U. From that point of view, I think it would be detrimental to Gallatin. Let me show you why. Right now there is one senatorial district in Bozeman. The present recommended senatorial districts would put 79 and 80 together and 75 and 76 as senatorial districts. Seventy-six and 79 have become basically bedroom districts with a great deal of growth and development. A good faction of the employees of Gallatin County live under present groupings. All three of these senators would have to be interested in the activities of M.S.U. Under a grouping suggested previously, 80 going with 44 and 75 going with 67, we would only have two senators interested in the urban senators and the bedroom senator closely tied to the interest of M.S.U. I would seriously consider this realignment from the point of view of Gallatin County's interest particularly because our chief competitor, Missoula, wants to have four senators within their county. Item number two is that yesterday afternoon Miss Brodsky came to me with some suggestions on how to solve the problems, and I certainly appreciate her efforts to work on these problems. These problems are that we have four districts, 76, 77, 78, and 79, all at the 5% variation on the high side. We have four districts clustered together--total of 1,600 citizens in some loose way disenfranchised. We have been trying to get our districts down to size. She has looked at some possibilities and shown them to me which would remove some of that excess population eventually into 75 and 80. Although that would somewhat reduce the problems in suburban Bozeman, I feel it puts the population problems in 75 and 80. But I do appreciate the fact that ripples can be produced. At this point, I have to be quite frank, I think the fairest way to solve the population problems of Gallatin's four districts is that these ripples would eventually have to move as far as Butte and Silver Bow County.

REPRESENTATIVE ELLERD, district 75, Bozeman. Senator Eck made a presentation that I find very political and very partisan. I want to point out to this committee that I am here in the interests of the West Yellowstone and Gallatin County areas. Reapportionment will not affect my position at all if I should run again. Now we are going to tear it out again under the proposal of the commission. They're not going to completely divorce it and put it into Madison County under the way it is. Evidently, I couldn't follow her reapportionment proposal but it looks to me it would

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realign the whole western area and I don't understand it. But I do understand enough to know that those people and people in Gallatin County should not turn against those who live there and Galatin County is getting hurt on reapportionment. It is unfair. We have our attorney, Mr. White and we're not threatening anyone. We've already taken our position and we will go as far as we have to. There are 75 miles from West Yellowstone to the Four Corners with 70 miles in the middle that you cannot get through in any way at all, it's all mountain. We are very, very upset about what's happened. We're not trying to get anybody. Please don't accept this last one, tear it up. Don't tear those people apart any more than you have to. West Yellowstone is a very isolated area in this state, and they have not had fair representation because of the area they are in. I spent a lot of time there and tried to give them fair representation. But there is no way in the world, you can't cover that area, it's just impossible for those people to have representation.

SENATOR PAUL BOYLAN, district 38, Bozeman. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee and the commission. I am a little apprehensive to testify in front of this committee because I hate to divide the spoils and so by redistricting the same in our area as in other areas, it has done quite a lot to our district. Gallatin County at one time represented part of Gallatin County in the old reapportionment. Since then I have represented 75 and 76, West Yellowstone. I think it's going to be a big hardship on the people of West Yellowstone to have to go into the other counties because of the terrain and so forth. But then comes the division of the spoils. Senate District 76 and 79 would be a fairly easy district for me to represent, easier than the other one, because of the contacts to be made I don't want to abandon the people in West Yellowstone. But I think you have to face the facts of where it's easier to run and put together. So with that, I thank the committee very much.

REPRESENTATIVE BERNIE SWIFT, district 91, Ravalli County. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee and members of the commission I have here a map of the county with my proposal and I go on record in opposition to the reapportionment plan, opposing the way our legislative districts in Ravalli County are formed. I will point out in relationship to the map I put on the board. If you recall, Senator Norman mentioned the ripple effect. I will allude to my reasons for not agreeing to what they have done to Ravalli County, going northwest into Missoula County and getting the third northern legislative district 64, shown here. What Senator Norman was alluding to is the very point I am making right now, that Missoula County is an amoeba that is expanding outward on all sides. Encroaching on rural areas and controlling what happens legislatively and senatorially. By going outside



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of Ravalli County we become a part of Missoula County as it gets into administrative effects and things related to schools, roads, and other matters, possible three or four more than that and for other matters. For this reason I propose that we have three legislative districts all within Ravalli County, for the reason shown by this map we can do that with three equal divided units that are within .3 or 1 percent on a population basis, which more than meets within the criteria of 5%. We are also within the 5 percent criteria. We are following the ground rules, not violating anything that I know of and I also want to point out that this plan does not split Victor. It is to the east of Victor. It does one other thing, it takes off approximately 690 people at the west side of Hamilton which was previously all in a southern unit and now reducing that by 600 and there are 2,661 in Hamilton. I don't think that impairs the community aspect or the life situation. I say this can be done without what we have been discussing here as a ripple effect. It will not affect any areas unduly because these numbers 1,053 that lie north of the Ravalli County line can be absorbed in the 9 legislative districts that make up the Missoula county complex. Therefore, we are not impinging on anyone, there will be a little work of renumbering. I have discussed this with the Commission on different occasions. As yet I have gotten no consideration for changing and I want to make it very clear I'm not only speaking for myself, I'm speaking for the citizens in this area of Ravalli County and also representing Senator Severson and Representative Bob Thoft. They concur with this. I don't think there is any question about what the intent is and what we want to do. Leave us alone, we can distribute the county equally and let us make our own decisions within our county. May I also allude to the statement I made yesterday that I do not desire to have senatorial districts combined on the southern part of the county. I have gone on record that that is a second worst alternative that we have. We are willing to go either way and leave that to the commission's wisdom. Large map EXHIBIT 6

REPRESENTATIVE KERRY KEYSER, district 86, Beaverhead and Madison County. In deference to my friends from Gallatin, I have a slight disagreement. I am basically speaking of senatorial districts. I would like to stay with Beaverhead but that is impossible. The Senate district that has a lot of compatibility, something that historically may have been together, part of it anyway, I would say that Madison and Beaverhead, 67 and 75, would make a very good Senate district and would be much more compatible. I realize we still haven't done anything for West Yellowstone, but I think these things we are not going to be able to handle under the proposed district. I know that combining 76 and 79, from my point of view, is a better combination. These are two very rural counties and would make a better Senate district than the proposed 75 and 76.

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CHAIRMAN STORY asked if there were any from out of town that had traveled a great distance.

DOROTHY M. PAGE addressed the committee. I have sat here and wondered about what is going on. Nobody has mentioned Granite County. A large area but a small population and no one to speak for us. At the present time, we are in an area where we have part of Anaconda, part of Deer Lodge County, part of Powell County, Granite County, and part of Missoula up to Seeley Lake and up to Helena. We can't have any kind of representation that we can get any help from. We have the audacity to suggest that maybe we follow the U.S. Senate idea and forget about this one-man, one vote business and give each county back our own little voice. We all need a voice. Our problems are different than the problems in other counties. We are very satisfied with Kermit Daniels and we prefer to be with him than to go with Beaverhead. I don't know if any of you know how far it is to travel just through Granite County to campaign. We have had the audacity to suggest that we look deeper into the idea that each little county should get some representation too. If not, we might decide to be a foreign country, that would be one way to get a little attention. You can't tell me anyone can be fair in their decisions when they have the vote in the larger counties unless the smaller counties happen to agree with the larger county suggests. I would like to go back to one senator for every county. We are a group of mixed republicans and democrats. We would like to be Montanans. We would like to be represented by our county and then worry about politics.

JOE STRABAL, Phillipsburg addressed the committee. We haven't had representation since 1964. I think House district 68 and 69 would be better for us in my view because I campaigned from August to November 4,500 miles, mainly to see people. From Anaconda and Granite, we have to go clear past Powell into Missoula, past Lincoln into the city limits, and I can't see any reason why. We have had the Supreme Court ruling since 1964 with one man one vote because they felt a voter wasn't getting a fair shake and I believe that, but I don't think we're getting a fair shake. Nothing against the people who represent us, we would like some resident representation.

CARL SEEL, Bozeman Lawyer addressed the committee. On behalf of a bipartisan committee in Gallatin County, I would like to briefly review what happened in Gallatin County starting in April when a committee prepared a plan with the criteria set forth by the Commission and submitted it to the Commission at which time it was tentatively approved. That plan has a deviation no greater than 66 people, and a percentage deviation,

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the maximum 4.4 and the others less than 4%. Something happened after that. By July 16th another plan had been slipped in to replace it and that plan is one that is being presented to you today. I would like to hand out to you at this time a handout which shows which House districts have been reapportioned in Gallatin County. You will see that out of the top 12 of the largest districts, Gallatin County has four of those. Gallatin County has two of the largest districts in the top 3 in the state of Montana. This variance not only makes the proposed plan constitutionally invalid, it also makes us susceptible to challenge. Plan presently being presented violates every initiative and criteria First was community interest. Individuals in the southern part of the county are being put into Madison County where they have no community interest. In fact the original boundaries were set that way because of the natural boundaries. Individuals in the southern part of Gallatin County would have to travel through Bozeman and then turn to go back into Madison County. There is very little community interest with a person who has a condo or interest between a student living in Four Corners with a geologist. Condition two, contiguousness of an area and compactness, contiguous but not compact. Violated again. Condition three, existing boundaries violated. Condition four, violated, existing legislative districts. Those lines are completely blurred. The lines of county governments, school districts, have all been violated. There are no highways connecting individuals in Gallatin County with the new district in Madison County. Communication; no radio, television, newspapers which represent both those areas. Condition five, the last, travel; the area where there is an interest, they will be traveling a lot. It isn't necessary. The handout shows the deviation from the norm in four of Gallatin County's districts. The greatest of any of them in the State of Montana, but in addition to that the Senate district which has a deviation of 5.14%, the largest in the state and also violates the Commission's own maximum 5%. These are great enough. However, taking into account the growth of Gallatin County, the fourth fastest growing in the state, over 10,000 persons per decade, there will be a variance between Gallatin County and other slower growing counties by as much as 16,000 people by 1990 which would be two entire House seats. Gallatin County was hurt by the last reapportionment. If this plan is allowed to pass again, it will suffer again in that the deviation will be exacerbated in ten years to the point where there will be 6,000 people in Gallatin County being deprived of their one man, one vote constitutional protection. In light of those arguments, we would urge your recommendation to the Commission that the Gallatin County reapportionment plan be changed, that they take into account the growth as well as the deviation to remedy the Senate district which is over 5% of the maximum allowed and puts this

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plan susceptible to being held up in the long run and constitutionally invalid. Thank you.

SENATOR LEO LANE, district 40: Addressed the commission and committee. When I run, I run in Gallatin County, which goes almost up to the Riverside Country Club, almost into Bozeman. It takes in a big end of Gallatin County and it takes in part of Jefferson, Lewis and Clark and Broadwater Counties. He also represents the college. He commented that he and members of his family are natives of the area and went to school at the university. He felt that Representative Nordtvedt's remarks were unfair. He likes the plan where he would represent part of Gallatin and Jefferson counties. He thanked the committee.

REPRESENTATIVE MARIAN HANSON, district 57, Powder River and Carter counties: Addressed the committee and members of the commission: She opposes the plan splitting the county of Powder River for Senate district. Its been split for House districts. There is a plan before the commission called Plan X which would put Powder River, Carter, and Fallon counties back together and combine us with Wibaux and part of Dawson as a Senate district. It would also address the Cheyenne Indian Reservation, as Plan X puts Colstrip in with Lame Deer and the Cheyenne Indian Reservation and then would address a senator from the Crow and the Cheyenne Indian nations. He felt the people of Southeast Montana have not been truly represented with this elongated Senate district .

DELWYN GAGE: Spoke in support of Senator Aklestad's proposal and added the fact that we have in Cut Bank a situation where the Blackfoot Tribal people are much more used to coming to the Cut Bank area than they are to the eastern areas. We have a greater understanding of those people because we have much more contact with them and would be most appreciative of being able to represent them in a senate district which Senator Aklestad's proposal would allow us to do, in addition to putting the county seat of Cut Bank back into the same senate district. We have a great concern for the Blackfeet Nation. We met with their tribal council and they were appreciative of the fact that we did come up and meet with them. They indicated that this was the first time an official had been in their council after an election. We would like to give you that for your consideration in recognizing Senator Aklestad's proposal. Thank you.

DENNIS BERGVALL, Executive Secretary of the Montana Republican Party: He read a letter in behalf of Senate President, Stan Stephens. EXHIBIT 7. He stated he had testified several times

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before the Commission and once before the House Committee. He commented on Eugene Mahoney's analogy that the reapportionment process is much like a horse race and as Republicans we don't want to lean too heavily upon the fact that this could have been a greater horse race but I think it's fair to say that probably the Democrats' horse had one more leg than ours. I also find it interesting that somehow in the process of the 11th hour reapportionment plan we can find such a sterling confession that the Commission Chairman found it impossible to divide partisanship from the process. He went on to state that the independent commission was designed for two basic purposes, to be more fair and equitable. I think that somehow in their zeal to paint one color, the complexion of the state politically, they forgot these purposes. He went on to say he hoped the commission would hopefully be fair and impartial and fine tune some of the rough edges on the procedures as well as to correct some of the abuses which have been rehearsed for today and certainly put forth for you today. He also said he hoped they could resolve it this way and not have to go to any higher or more impartial authority. He hoped they would ultimately make everybody happy but really more important there are alternatives that are more fair that were not chosen or considered, that those alternatives be considered now, so as to come up with the strongest and best plan. He acknowledged his respect for the fact that it is not an easy job but important as their decisions will last for ten years. He stressed the angle of fairness and thanked the committee.

SENATOR BOB BROWN, Senate district 10: He came to criticize publicly the proposed Senate District that would combine the proposed House Districts 50 and 49. A district that violates most, if not all, the criteria established by the Reapportionment Commission. It violated the community boundaries because it runs from within a few miles from Polson and the town of Deer Lodge and also goes within a few miles of Anaconda, obviously it's not contiguous nor compact, and I don't think it's necessary either. I suggest that your committee might consider recommending to the Commission that you combine House District 51 with House District 50 and take the southern portion of Lake County, which is House District 52 and tie it in with Missoula County, perhaps the Rattlesnake area. He said it would not cause much ripple effect and be fairer to the people involved. He thanked the committee.

SENATOR JEAN TURNAGE, Senate district 13: He came to endorse what Senator Brown said. He would like to adopt, at the expense of plagiarism what attorney Seel said. I think that was well done. He gave one more comment regarding the reapportionment process which corrected the constitutional unfairness of the

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entire nation and was operating under before the United States Supreme Court and was intended to give fair representation to everyone. They have proceeded basically on the numbers and I fear they assume that just because the numbers fit, that is all that's necessary and I think not. There is a constitutional effect to have rational, common sense, representation. That is why we would like some consideration of the comments of Senator Brown.

REPRESENTATIVE BOB MARKS, District 80: He came to comment especially on a comment attributed to the Chairman of the Reapportionment Committee to the press yesterday. Relative to my position on the Gallatin proposal that was brought before your committee hearing last year. He did not oppose the so-called Johnson-Marchwick plan. I believe I testified against an ill conceived plan which would have carved Jefferson County into three parts where no person from Jefferson County could ever expect to be elected. The plan I testified against was not proposed by Gallatin County and it was opposed by hundreds of people from Jefferson County from both political persuasions. By adopting present tentative plan 44, incorporating western Broadwater County with Jefferson County into one House district, in no way precludes the committee from accommodating the Johnson-Marchwick plan or giving Gallatin County more than what they have ended up with. He asked them to check the record.

REPRESENTATIVE JACK RAMIREZ, House District 64: Stated he wanted to make a point, he already had brought up with the Commission regarding a letter he wrote on August 12, 1982 and submitted a copy. EXHIBIT 8. He didn't come to change the boundaries, he doesn't care. He said there were two alternatives, one called the blue alternative and one the orange alternative, the orange was adopted. He feels the blue is much more contiguous and compact, it is a better plan. One of the alternatives to the plan dealt with the area that is basically part of Billings. It's not within the city limits, but part of the Billings community. The line for both of these districts both under orange and blue went down the major street called Rimrock Road and on the north of Rimrock Road are a number of subdivisions. All of the people along the road consider themselves to be a part of the Billings community and they are. To the south of Rimrock Road is the same situation that kind of goes along out in the country and there is a map, I don't know if I can show you very well, but this is the road and the subdivisions on the south side of the road consider themselves, I say, as part of the Billings community. Those on the north side do too. But the people on the south side of the road in this area, right here, were taken out and were put into a district that is basically Stillwater County, and they have absolutely no identity of interest with the people in Stillwater County. These are Billings dwellers for all practical purposes. They are cut off on the fringe and taken into a rural district, and I just don't think it's conscionable. Those people

STATE ADMINISTRATION

January 20, 1983

Page 15

are very upset and they don't feel they are going to have the kind of representation they should have because they consider themselves part of the urban community and they're not really going to be part of Yellowstone County district. They will be dominated by Stillwater County. I don't care if this area goes into my district, I just think these people are entitled to go into some district that is connected with the city of Billings. Whether mine or somebody else's is immaterial. I was told at the time that the only way that that could be done would be to take a little chunk out of Carbon County and put it with Stillwater County, I see nothing wrong with this. One of the standards I know is political boundaries. The people in Carbon County have a much greater identity of interests with those in Stillwater County than that group of a couple of thousand people within the Billings area. But certainly there is a greater identity of interests there and it seems to me that that should cut that county boundary and put part of Carbon in with Stillwater so that this can be left in the area that it belongs and it just seems to me to be such a fair and reasonable change that it can't be disputed. But in any event I want that brought to the attention of the committee.

SENATOR DANIELS, district 14: He stated that his second choice appears to be the logical combination of districts 49 and 68, Granite and Powell and he endorsed the remarks made by Senators Galt and Van Valkenberg.

SENATOR LARRY STIMATZ, district 43: Appeared again to make sure the record was clear that he never questioned Senator Lane's commitment to Montana State University interests. That the decisions being made will outlast my incumbency or any other incumbencies and they should be looked at from the point of view of the districts and the people and not the present representatives. He presented written testimony. Exhibit 9.

SENATOR JACK GALT, district 23: Stated he wanted to set the record clear too. Yesterday I made a statement which was not before this committee but the House committee in regards that I had not been contacted in my area for a meeting with Miss Brodsky and in checking back, I am sure I was out of town at the time. I certainly want to compliment her on what she did and she was very cooperative at all times. I am sure that what I said yesterday was an error on my part, I am sure I was contacted.

SENATOR LARRY STIMATZ, district 43, Silver Bow County: He pointed out that in a letter he had already sent to the commission that he agreed with Senator Haffey and the districting in Silver Bow.

STATE ADMINISTRATION

January 20, 1983

Page 16

The present proposal is to go east into Anaconda and Silver Bow. In the Juneau meeting we proposed to go west in Anaconda and east into Jefferson County. That is what I favored, and I favored keeping my two districts in Silver Bow County. We are going to have to go outside our county to get one other House district for the Senate and it can very easily be any one of the others. Miss Brodsky has the alternative that have been proposed. Thank you.

SENATOR REED MARBUT, district 49, Missoula County: I wish to preserve my position on record and the right to submit written testimony to this committee.

SENATOR STORY now called for comments from the committee.

SENATOR TOM TOWE, district 34: My comment is that my particular district is divided into three parts very nicely almost equally and I don't think that the reapportionment could have done worse to my district, but I don't wish to complain about it because I wish to comment. Having been involved eight years ago in trying to draw districts for the legislature when the legislature had the responsibility, I am convinced it isn't possible for the legislature to reapportion itself, so I think that what you have seen today is a good illustration of how the system is working and working very well and I would ask that the Commission do pay attention to the comments that were heard today, and I am sure they have and will. I appreciate their taking their time to sit with us today and go through this procedure and hear the complaints and I am happy to abide by the decision of the Commission. That does not bother me at all. I do have a question, two things that I was struck by today. First of all, I am very mindful of Mrs. Page's comments, she is absolutely right that we did a terrible thing to Phillipsburg and Granite County eight years ago, and are we doing any better at this time? In any event, I think that those comments are well taken. Secondly, I guess the question I had was that comments about the two Gallatin county districts being in excess of 5% to the members of the Commission, Gene or somebody, is that a concern? Apparently your guideline is 5%. I am not familiar with the more recent Supreme Court cases. Do you feel confident that if we exceed 5% we will not be in trouble legally on a 5% deviation?

GENE MAHONEY: My understanding that each individual case will stand on its own merits if you deviate. We set the 5% ourselves. But if you have a justifiable reason for doing it I think they will approve up to 16%. But you have to have a good reason. That



is why we tried to keep it to 5%. Admittedly we had to violate it ourselves to try to put that thing together.

SENATOR TOM TOWE: How about commenting on those two areas. Fast growing and likely to substantially exceed 5% in ten years. Is that something the commission has considered?

GENE MAHONEY: I know of no case that ruled you must consider the potential growth in the reapportionment process either in the United States Supreme Court or the Circuit Court of Appeals or the District Court in Billings to decide the question on that basis.

SENATOR TOM TOWE: Twenty-five of us here in the Senate are particularly concerned about the other issue that hasn't been discussed this morning and that is the constitutional provision that says senators are elected to four year terms and I believe there are some 20 states, two years ago, that had the same problem that was resolved in those states. Does that cause a problem with the commission?

GENE MAHONEY: We don't think that is our problem, really.

SENATOR SWEDE HAMMOND, district 3: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, and members of the Committee. I would like to go on record as being in favor of the plan presented by Solberg and Etchart, making it possible for Blaine and Phillips to remain together and maintain rural representation in the Senate. With the present plan they will be divided between the city of Havre and the city of Glasgow which would make it pretty difficult for any rural representation for either of these two counties in the legislature.

SENATOR DICK MANNING, district 18, Cascade County: Said he approved and can live with what the commission did and it would have a very good bipartisan support in Great Falls.

SENATOR LARRY TVEIT, district 27: Commented that there were many disparities and discrepancies in his area and when you talk about distances, they have one House district that is farther than Billings to Butte and it is all one district.

SENATOR REED MARBUT, district 49: Pointed out an error on the map.

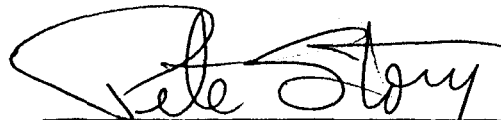
CHAIRMAN, SENATOR STORY: Asked for any more questions from the committee and there being none thanked everyone for their presentation and all who came.

STATE ADMINISTRATION

January 20, 1983

Page 18

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

  
CHAIRMAN

## ROLL CALL

STATE ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE

48th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1983

Date 1/20/83

[illegible]

Each day attach to minutes.

January 20, 1983

## STATE ADMINISTRATION

SR4

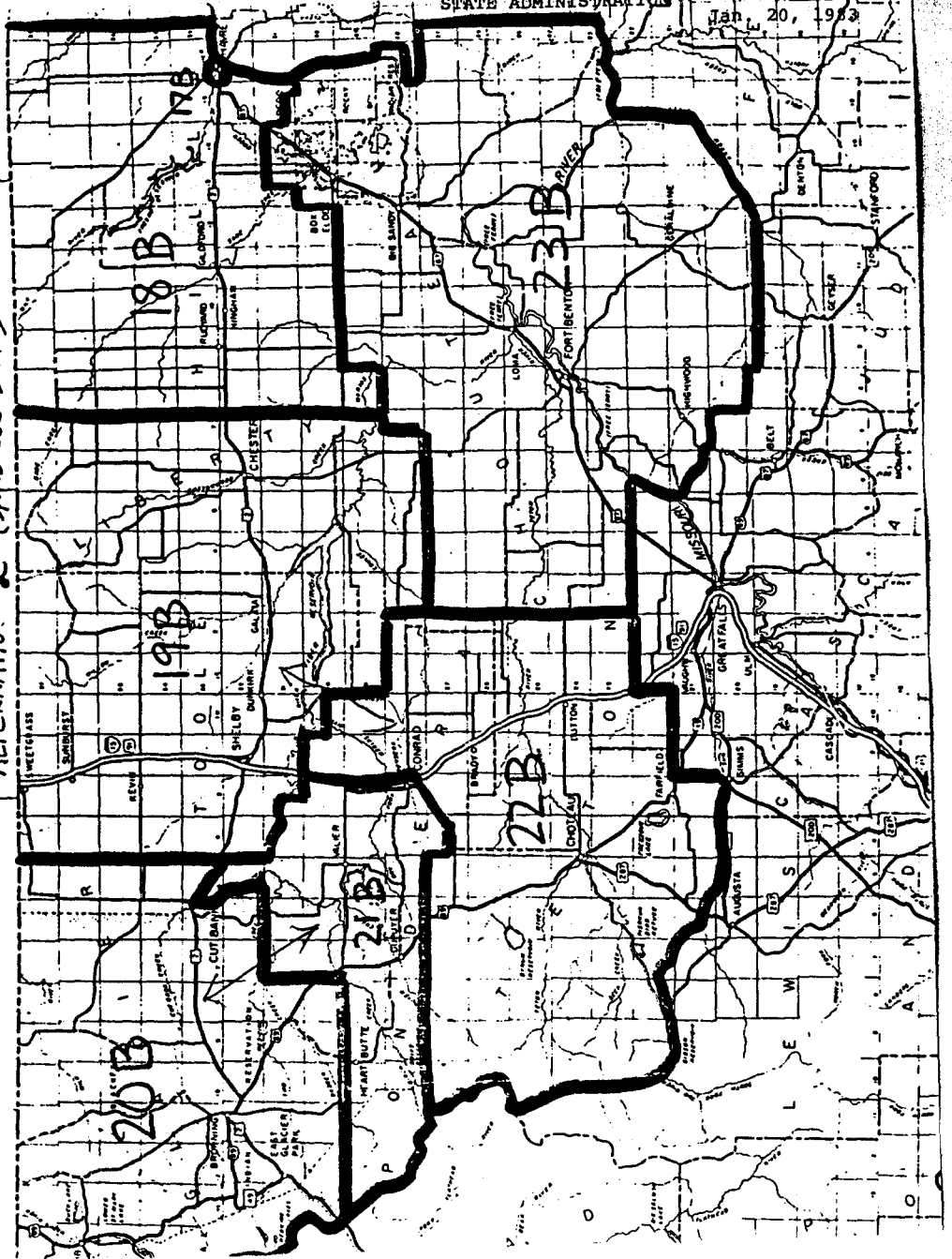
[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)





## ALTERNATIV 2 (split w Bank)



Testimony

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, testimony, Senator Ed Smith,  
District #1.

I am appearing before this committee because I was asked to by my  
constituents in North Eastern Montana.

This is the third time I have appeared before the reapportionment  
commission to express concern on the way Senate district was re-  
designed: **#1 mar 20**

Once in Helena

Next in Wolf Point

and now here

I expect the same results today. According to the today's issue  
of the Great Falls Tribune, the Commission urged legislators to  
come up with alternatives.

How stupid a remark. The Reapportionment Commission spent over  
18 months on reapportioning the state and now expect the legislators,  
with their busy schedule, to come up with alternatives.

Mr. Chairman, now I will address my objections with regard to Senate  
District #1.

I will begin by pointing out on the map that 2907 people in eastern  
Roosevelt County were taken from the north side of the Missouri River  
and placed into Richland County, which is now District 11.



When this was done it violates the very criteria the constitution directed the commission to follow. Page 11 of this book.

1. Consideration shall be given to existing governmental lines. These include such things as county, city, Indian reservation, precinct and school district lines.  
  
Indian reservation divided into 4 legislative districts - cut school district lines voting districts.
2. Geographic boundaries will be respected. The book states another natural divider is the Missouri River, again a violation.
3. Whereever practical consideration shall be given to existing legislative district boundaries.
5. Communities of interest will be considered. With this criteria the commission sought to create homogeneous groupings.

Communities of interest can be defined by trade areas, organizations, communication and transportation networks - again a violation of the criteria - (note map)

#### Some Examples -

Only one road, Highway 16, connects the divided district, which is again as I mentioned, the Missouri River. Trade area Highway East and West, Scobey to Wolf Point - Plentywood to Culbertson - Highway #2 Bainville to Wolf Point.

Organizations - County Commissioner Associations, 5 Counties North of Missouri River, County Planning Districts, Conservation Districts, Mental Health Districts, Rural Water Districts, School Activities, could go on and on.

Communications - NeMont Telephone Coop - North Dakota Line to Glasgow - also Mountain Bell Directory Northeastern Montana.



*The Big Sky Country*

**MONTANA STATE SENATE**

Aug. 27, 1982

Box 229

Glasgow, mt

SENATOR MARK ETCHART  
DISTRICT NO. 2  
GLASGOW, MONTANA 59230

HELENA ADDRESS:  
705 6TH AVE.  
442-6377

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCE AND CLAIMS  
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Representative Chet Solberg  
Scobey, Mt. 59263

Dear Chet,

I have looked over your Reapportionment plan for House Districts 1,2,3,and 4 and Senate Districts 1, and 2. Your plan is certainly a great improvement over the proposal presented to us at the Wolf Point meeting of the Reapportionment Commission. It is superior in the following respects.

1. It leaves Valley County and Daniels County intact within Senate District 2.

2. The towns of Scobey, Opheim, Ft. Peck and Glasgow are linked in a logical political and economic package.

3. The natural boundary formed by the Missouri River is only broken where a bridge or Ft. Peck Dam provides good access to relatively remote trade areas, which are already isolated.

Sheridan County remains intact within one Representative District.

4. The Indian population is better represented since it is not fragmented and lies mostly within the Wolf Point Representative District.

5. The Districts remain "compact and of contiguous" as required by the Constitution.

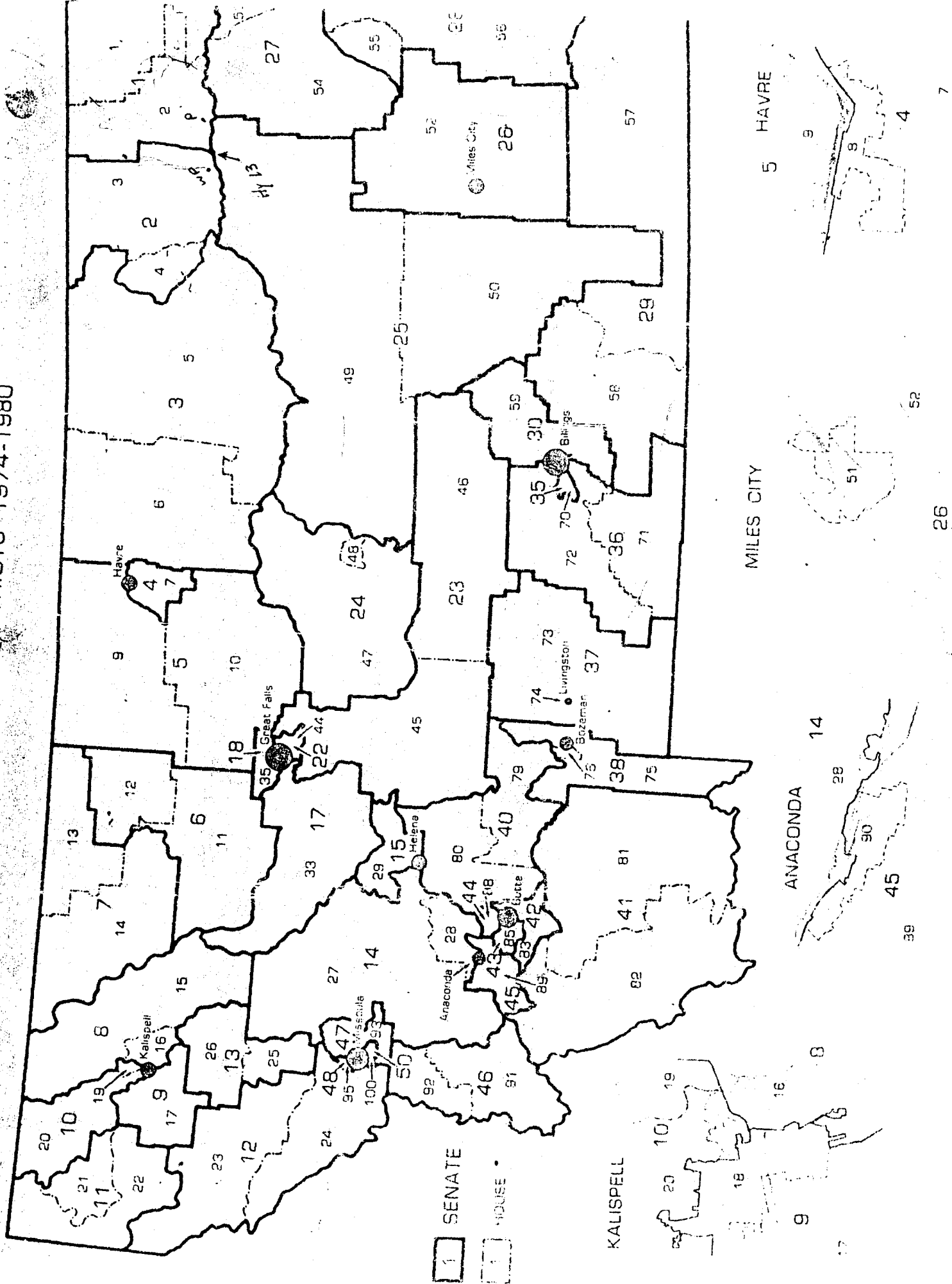
6. It maintains the tradition of keeping the area between the Missouri River and the Canadian Border which is known as the "Hi Line" intact with reapportionment starting at the Northeast corner of the state and proceeding from an east to west and counter clockwise manner.

Sincerely,

*Mark Etchart*  
Mark Etchart

Copies: To whom it may concern

# LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS 1974-1980



PETITION to Change Montana Districting & Apportionment Commission's  
Tentatively Proposed Boundaries of Representative Districts  
in Northeastern Montana.

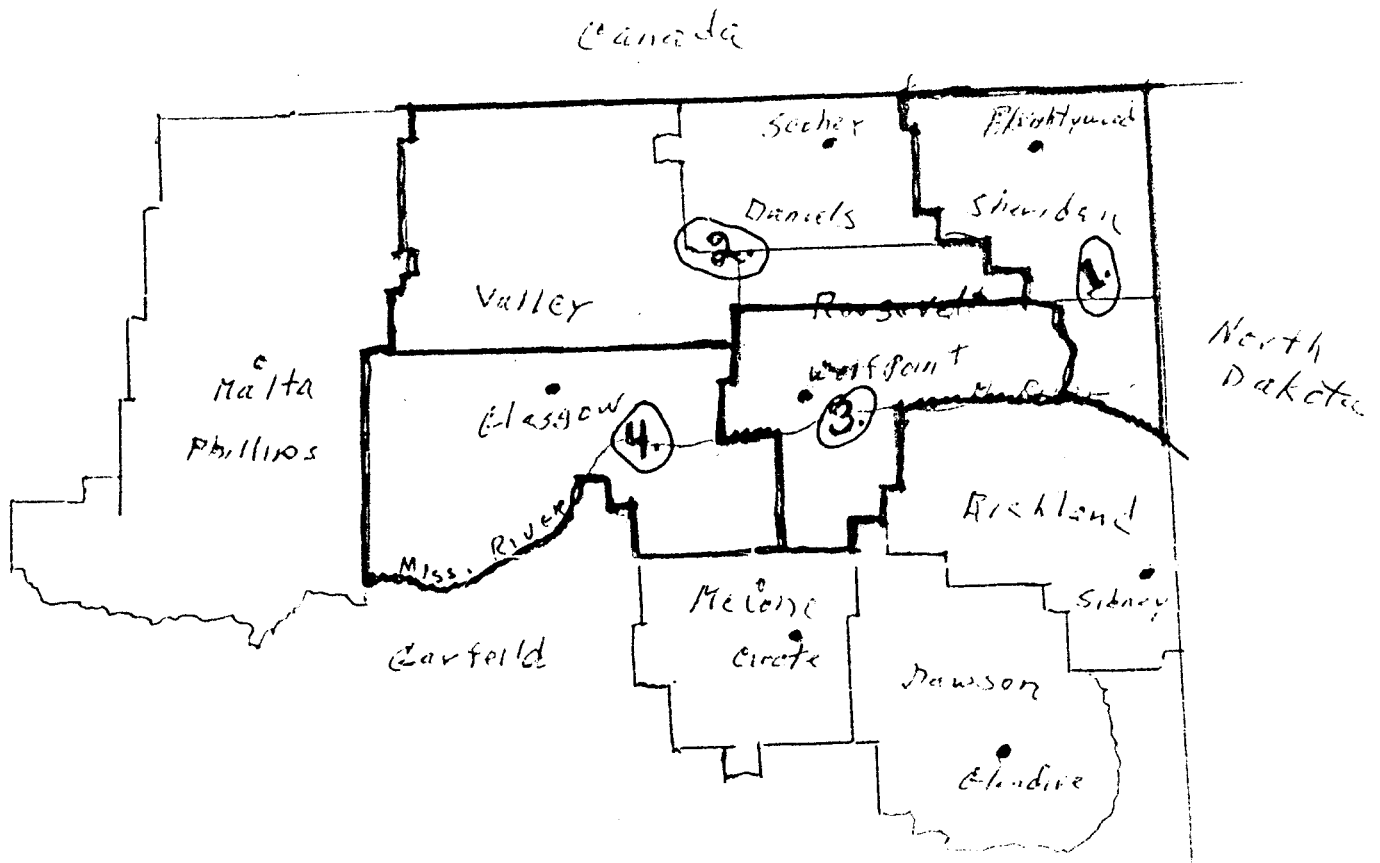
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TO: The MONTANA DISTRICTING & APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION:

1. This petition, with an alternative map attached, is signed by the following qualified voters residing in the counties of Sheridan, Daniels, Valley, Roosevelt and McCone.

2. We believe the proposal herein is in closer harmony with the economic, cultural and community patterns in N.E. Montana.

3. We therefore respectfully request that you arrange the Representative Districts 1,2,3 and 4 in northeastern Montana in accordance with the attached map.



4. Signatures to this petition are contained on the following attached pages. . . .

Following are Population Figures  
for Proposed New Districting

Population-

Sheridan 5414

Daniels 2835

Roosevelt 10467

Valley 10250

Ntra McCone 1030  
29996

House  
Total in 4 N.E. Districts  
Total in 2 NE Senate Dist.

Districts

Sheridan 5414

East Roosevelt Div 2134

7548 Total Dist # 1

Daniels 2835

N. Roosevelt 1458

N Valley 3182

7475 Total Dist # 2

S Roosevelt 6875

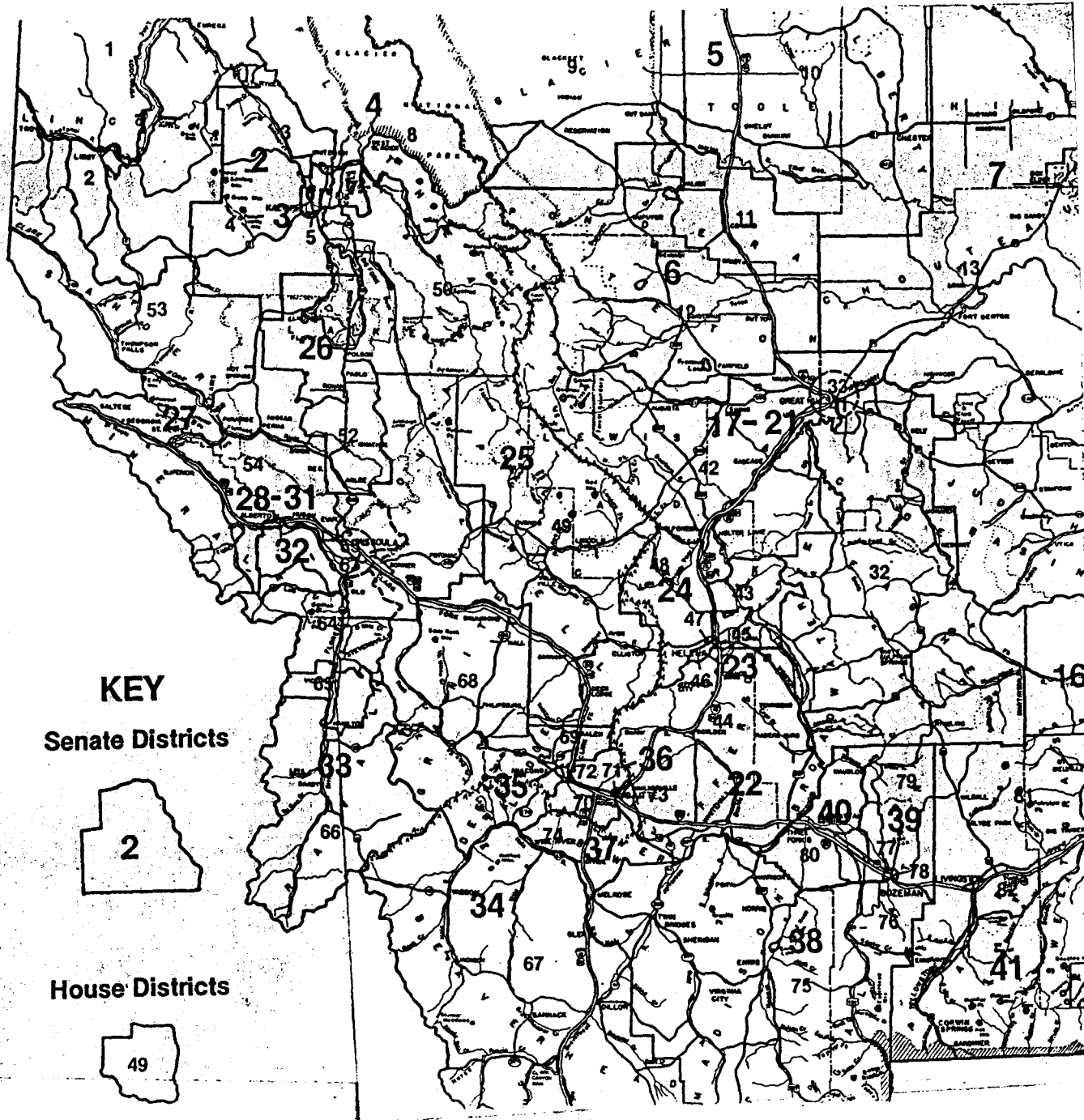
NE McCone 610

7485 Total Dist # 3

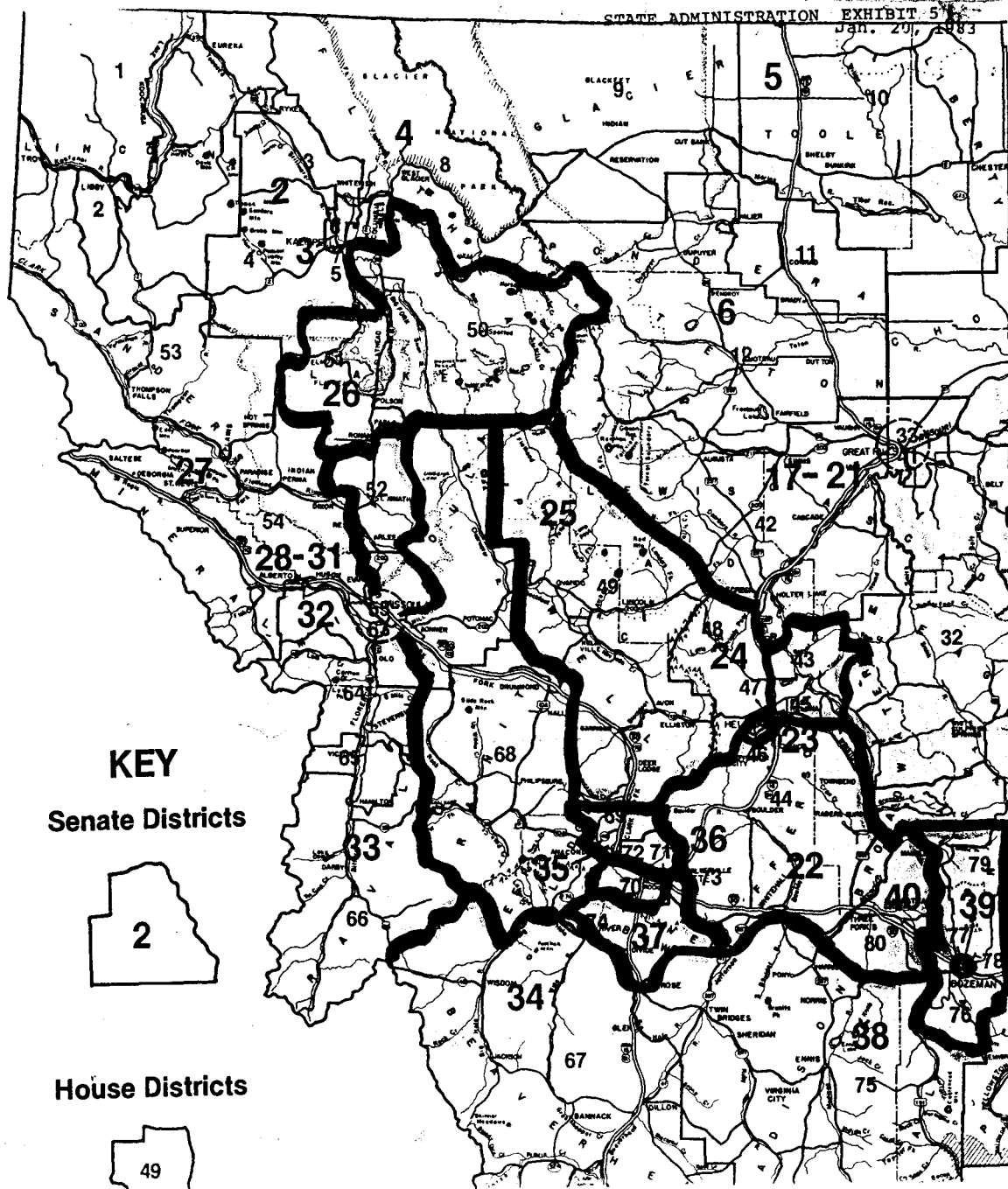
S. Valley 7068

N.W. McCone 420

7488 Total Dist # 4



**MONTANA HOUSE AND SENATE DISTRICTS  
TENTATIVELY ADOPTED BY THE MONTANA  
DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION  
SUBMITTED TO THE 48TH LEGISLATURE**



### ECK PROPOSAL

- 67-75 (BEAVERHEAD + MADISON)
- 76-79 (RURAL GALLATIN)
- 77-78 (BOZEMAN)
- 44-80 (THRETFORKS + JEFFERSON)
- 43-45 (E. HELENA + HELENA EASTSIDE)
- 48-49 (W. HELENA VALLEY + POWELL)
- 51-50 (BIGFORK + N. LAKE CO.)
- 52-55 (S. LAKE CO. + MISSOULA)
- 68-57 (GRANITE + MISSOULA)

EXHIBIT 6  
State Administration  
January 20, 1983

Exhibit 6 is a very large map. It is stored in a box.





*The Big Sky Country*

## MONTANA STATE SENATE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

SEN. STAN STEPHENS

HELENA ADDRESS:  
P. O. BOX 156  
CAPITOL STATION  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620  
PHONE (406) 449-4880

HOME ADDRESS:  
422 THIRD STREET  
HAVRE, MONTANA 59501  
PHONE 265-4919

January 19, 1983

Senator Peter Story, Chairman  
State Administration Committee

Dear Senator Story:

Regarding the Senate resolution on legislative reapportionment, I would like to submit the following recommendation for consideration by your committee.

The reapportionment plan as submitted to the legislature calls for the forming of two new Senate districts in north central Montana, and in its present form the plan would divide the city of Havre, which in my judgment would be highly undesirable.

The new plan would combine proposed House district 15, which comprises of a portion of the city of Havre with proposed new House district 16, which is made up of Blaine County. The second Senate district would take the remainder of Havre in House district 14 and attach it to House district 13, which is Chouteau County. These two new proposed Senate districts not only dissect the city of Havre but also break county lines.

It would be my suggestion that the two House districts in Havre (#14 and #15) should logically become a singular Senate district and that the second Senate district would be made up of House districts 13 and 16. If this were done, the integrity of the city of Havre would be preserved and the new Senate district would be very similar to the current one which is in place. As for combining Chouteau and Blaine counties to form a new Senate district, these counties are contiguous and do have a commonality in that they are basically rural, farm and ranch counties.

It would appear to me that whether a Republican or a Democrat is to be elected, the city of Havre, as the eighth largest city in the state, deserves to be assured representation in the Senate if at all possible. My plan would guarantee this, while the proposed plan of the reapportionment committee leaves grave doubt that Havre would be represented in the Senate.

I trust I have been sufficiently clear in analyzing my recommendation, and I will seriously appreciate your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stan Stephens".

Stan Stephens, President

JAN 20 1983

## ...Admittedly partisan

Tribune Capitol Bureau

HELENA — For the first time publicly, Reapportionment Commission Chairman Eugene Mahoney Wednesday openly admitted his partisanship in drawing new legislative districts.

Mahoney has come under increasing criticism from Republicans and at least one newspaper editorial for his role on the five-member Reapportionment Commission. He has voted with the two other Democrats on virtually every major contested decision.

"I think the press has been rather naive to think that the chairman, who has been a Democrat for some 65 years, should suddenly become a political eunuch," Mahoney told the House State Administration Committee.

Mahoney said he had to make tough decisions, including splitting his home county of Sanders, "but I do feel they were made honestly."

A retired lawyer from Thompson Falls, Mahoney was appointed by the Montana Supreme Court to serve as chairman of the Reapportionment Commission after the four members appointed by legislative leaders were unable to agree on a chairman.

Mahoney is a former Democratic legislator and was an unsuccessful candidate for governor in 1968.

Throughout the hearings across

the state last summer, Mahoney introduced the other four members of the commission as Democrats or Republicans. He would then introduce himself as the nonpartisan chairman of the commission.

As the process went on, Republicans criticized Mahoney for consistently voting with the two other Democrats on contested issues. That gave Democrats a 3-2 majority and enabled them to muscle the reapportionment plan of their choice through the committee. Republicans charged.

Democrats denied the partisanship charge.

When the issue of his partisanship arose, Mahoney said he was as nonpartisan as the Supreme Court that appointed him. Although the Supreme Court justices run as nonpartisan candidates, most had been active Democrats before becoming judges.

At a hearing earlier this session, Republican reapportionment commissioner John Kuhr of Havre told legislators that of 61 contested motions before the Reapportionment Commission, Mahoney voted with the other two Democrats 57 times. He abstained on two other votes and voted with the Republicans and against the Democrats only two times, both on minor matters.

opponents - House  
 Sen. Murphy (68-69)

Sen. Ableson

Sen. Smith

Sen. Seckart (Solberg plan)

Sen. Van Vollenburg (66 and 67) (House 50 and 51) (49 and 68)

Sen. Eckbreep rural district (Senate) both east and west and the same

43 418 48 and 49 54 and 50 52 and 55 68 and 57

Rep. Ben Nordwest - Bozeman

Rep. Allard - protect our Yellowstone

Sen. Boylan - Bozeman

Rep. Swift (Bozeman)

Rep. Mayson 67 and 75 would make a good Senate

Rep. Page - Granite County (no representation)

Rep. Strangel - P. Berg (House) 68 and 69

Rep. Lee - Bozeman - Galatin County should be looked at

Sen. Lane - Three Forks

Rep. Hanson - Broadus

Rep. Page - Cut Bank supports Ableson

Dem. Buehner - Republican Part eye.

Sen. Brown

Sen. Turnage

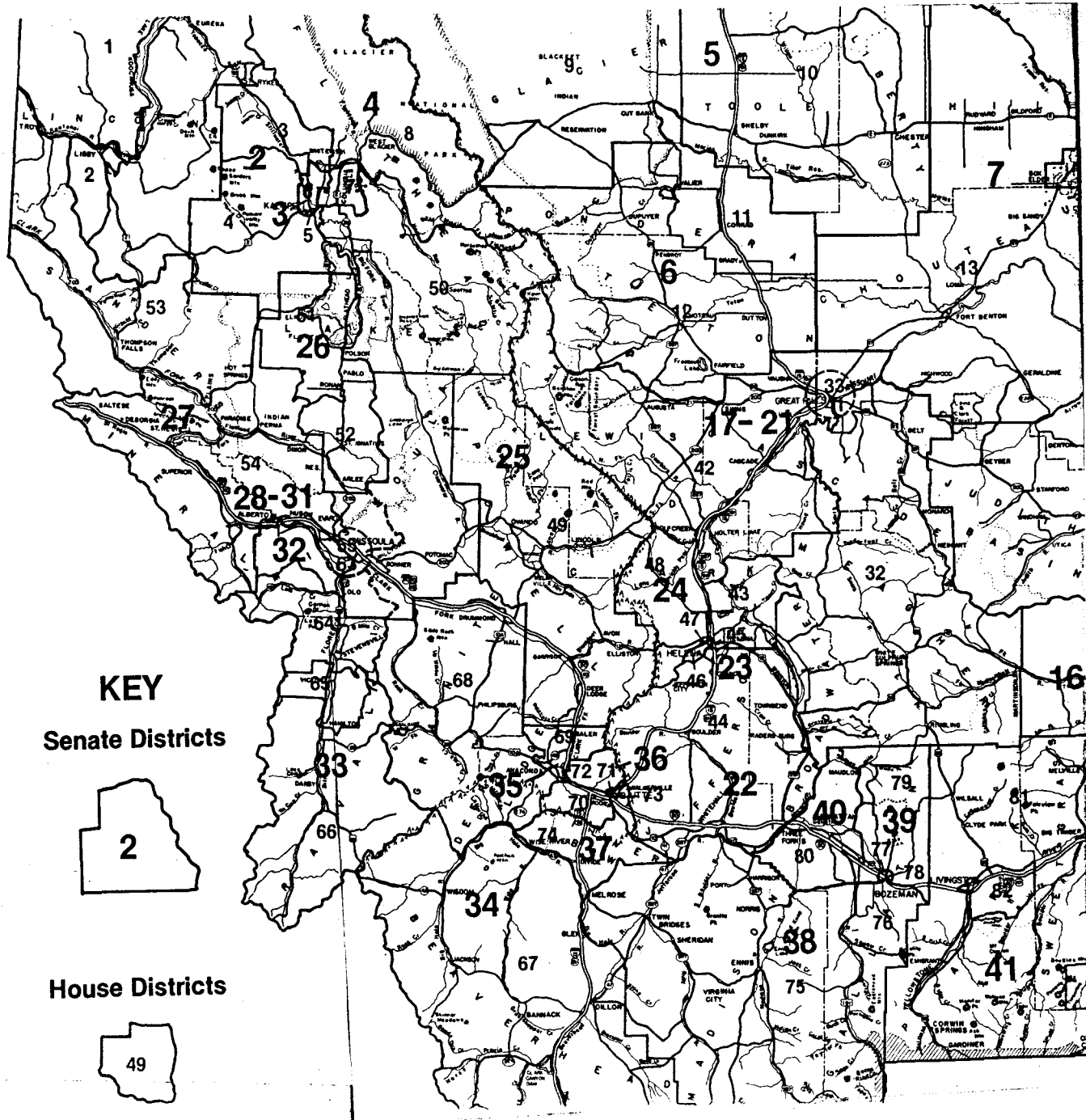
Rep. Marks

Rep. Remington

Sen. Daniels (49 and 18)

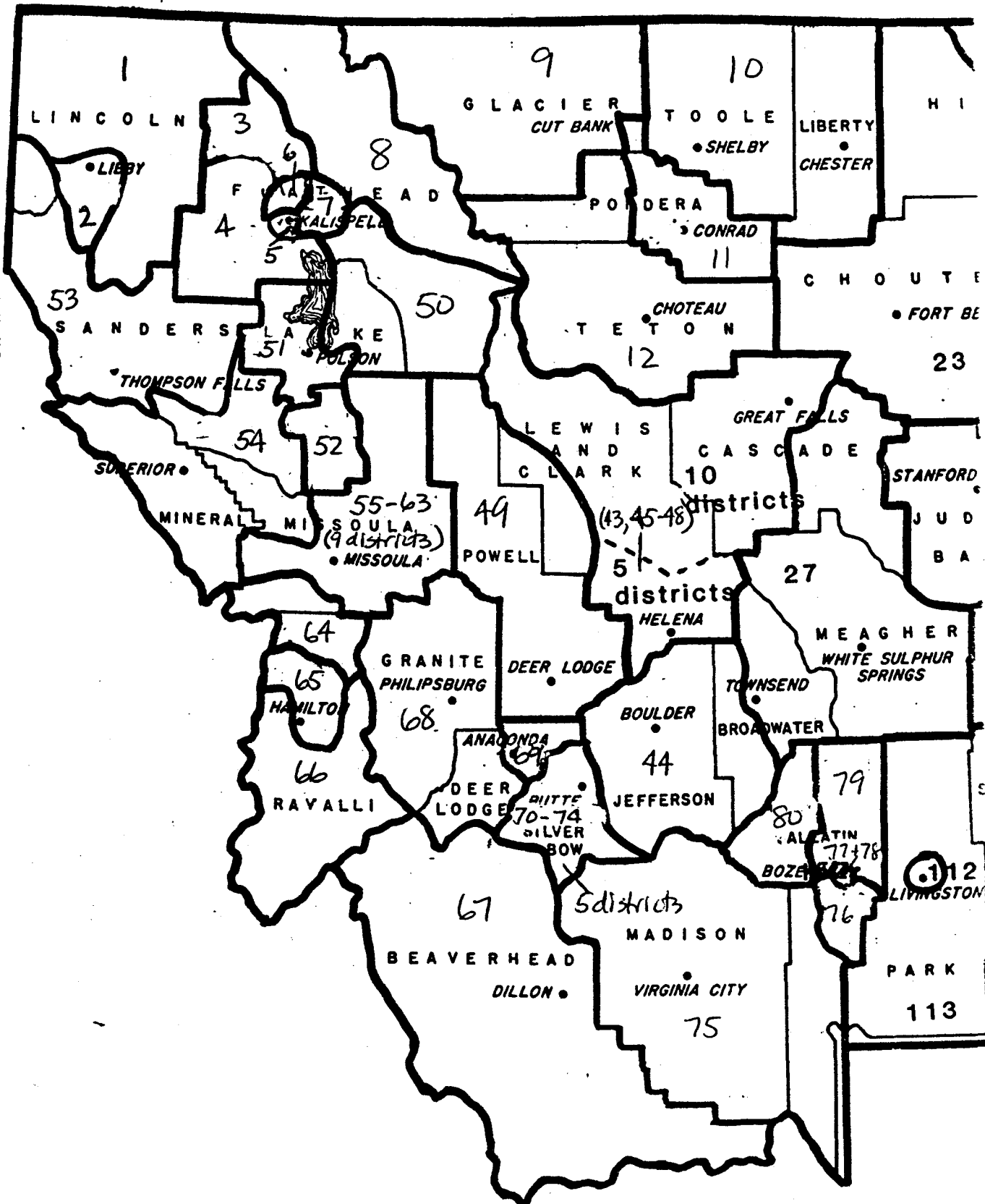
Sen. Starnes

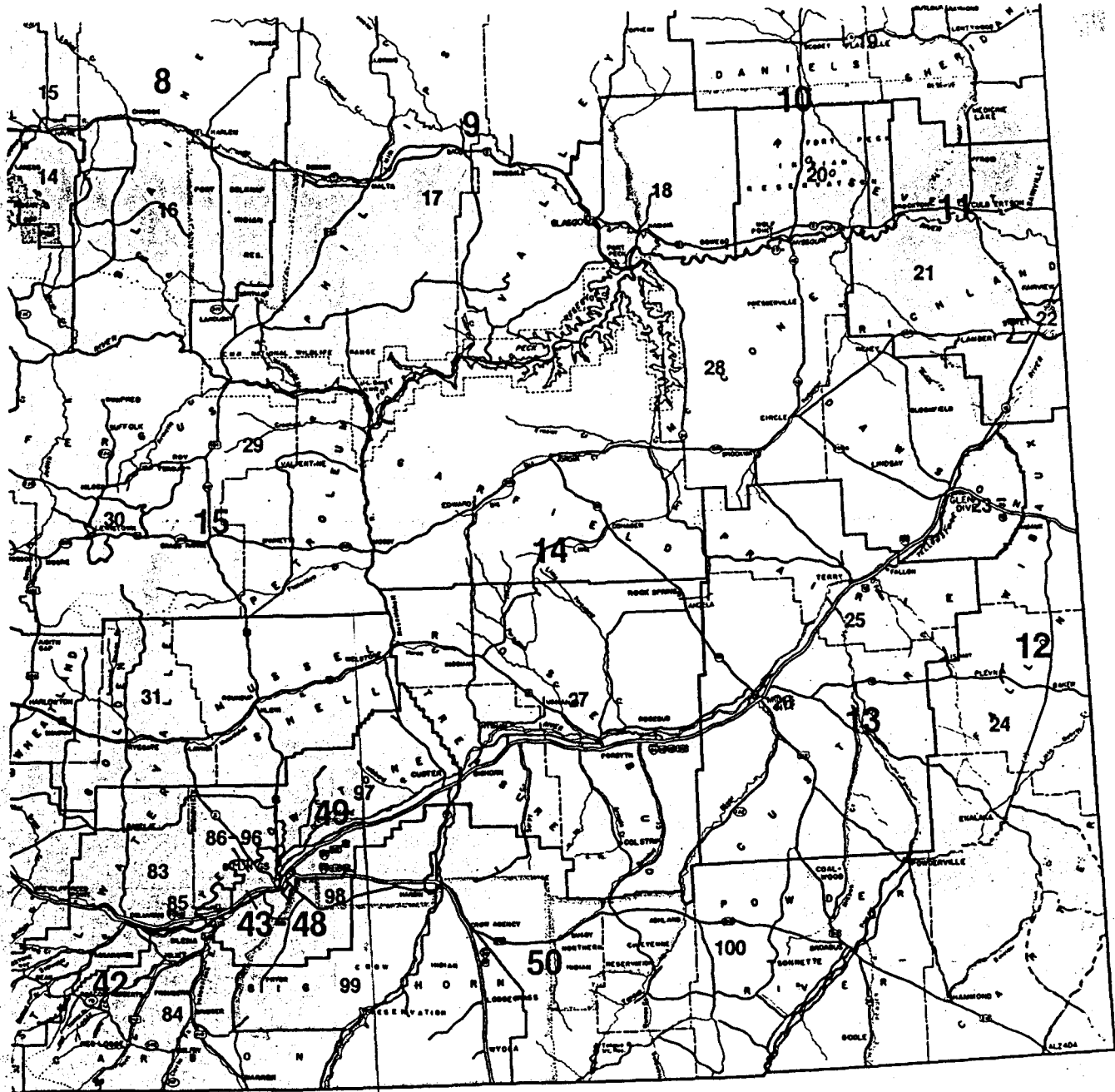
Sen. Martini



**MONTANA HOUSE AND SENATE DISTRICTS  
TENTATIVELY ADOPTED BY THE MONTANA  
DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION  
SUBMITTED TO THE 48TH LEGISLATURE**

**No. 1051 --County outline Map (50 to a pad)**  
STATE PUBLISHING CO. HELENA, MONT.





**MONTANA HOUSE AND SENATE DISTRICTS  
TENTATIVELY ADOPTED BY THE MONTANA  
DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION  
SUBMITTED TO THE 48TH LEGISLATURE**



*The Big Sky Country*

MONTANA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

4042 Pine Cove Road  
Billings, Montana 59106  
August 12, 1982

Montana Districting and  
Apportionment Commission  
Montana Legislative Council  
Room 138, State Capitol  
Helena, Montana 59620

Attention: Anne Brodsky, Staff Researcher

In re: Proposals for House Districts - Billings Area

Dear Anne:

I have reviewed your letter of August 5, 1982, and the enclosed map showing the proposed alternatives for house districts in the Billings area. It is my understanding that these alternatives will be presented at the hearing of the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission on August 16 in Billings. I will be out of town on that day and will be unable to attend the hearing, but I wanted to have my comments brought to the attention of the Commission and included in the record.

The orange and blue alternatives which are shown on your maps are both different from the proposal which you reviewed with me at the courthouse. I am not sure just how these alternatives impact some of the other districts, and I have some concerns over that.

With respect to the two alternatives presented, however, I believe for House District H, which is the area I presently represent, that the blue alternative is the one which is more acceptable. In that alternative, the districts appear to be more compact and contiguous. In the orange alternative, the boundary lines of House Districts G and H seem to meander. I know you are dealing with census enumerator districts, but the orange alternative boundaries in the southern parts of proposed House Districts G and H do not make any sense.


EXHIBIT 8 6

Montana Districting and  
Apportionment Commission  
August 12, 1982  
Page 2

The second issue of concern to me relates to the area which can be placed in District H but would require Carbon County to be divided. Despite the fact that Carbon County would be split under this proposal, I think it is the only fair proposal for those people living on the outskirts of Billings in the area designated on the maps. This area is an urban area for all practical purposes. The people who live there consider themselves residents of Billings. The subdivisions in those areas are city subdivisions. These people would be deprived of fair representation in my opinion if they are included in a rural district made up of parts of rural Yellowstone and Stillwater Counties, particularly if Stillwater County is the dominating force in that district. Even if the alternative would require Carbon County to be divided, I believe the representation of the residents of Carbon County would be consistent with the nature of their area.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,

  
Jack Ramirez  
State Representative  
House District 64

JR:lw





The Big Sky Country

## MONTANA STATE SENATE

Jan. 20, 1983

Sen. Pete Story, Chairman.  
State Administration Committee  
48th Legislature  
Helena, Montana 59620

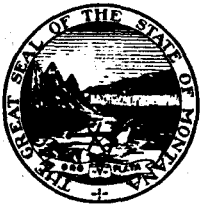
Re: Reapportionment - Senate District 43

Dear Senator Story:

I am opposed to the announced plan of the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission for my District 43, in Silver Bow County.

As expressed in my letter of October 8, 1982, a copy of which is attached, I ask that my district remain wholly within Silver Bow County and that any change be made by combining one of Silver Bow's new House Districts with a House district in Jefferson County.

Very truly yours,  
Lawrence E. Stenetz



*The Big Sky Country*

## MONTANA STATE SENATE

Senator Lawrence G. Stimatz  
District 43,  
Butte Silver Bow  
1615 C. Street  
Butte, Montana 59701

Committees:  
Finance and Claims,  
Highways

October 8, 1982

Mr. Eugene Mahoney, Chairman  
Montana Districting and  
Apportionment Commission  
P. O. Box 38  
Thompson Falls, Montana 59873

Re: Proposed Apportionment of Existing Senate Districts 43 and 45

Dear Gene:

This is my protest of the proposed (as announced in the Montana Standard of October 7, 1982) apportionment of the existing Senate District 43 (Stimatz) and District 45 (Haffey) and combining them into one new Senate District. Existing District #43 is now wholly within Silver Bow County, and existing District #45 is now wholly within Deer Lodge County.

At the Commission meeting in Butte on June 12 of this year, the proposed House redistricting called for 5 House districts within Silver Bow County and one House district eliminated from Silver Bow. The possible combination for senate districts called for 2 senate districts within Silver Bow County and one district being combined with one House district from Jefferson-Gallatin for the new Senate District.

I also protest that it is my District #43 which is proposed as being merged with an outside county. I am the senior senator from Silver Bow County and I desire that my District #43 remain within Silver Bow County. The new senate district should come from a combination of either District #42 (Jacobson) or District #44 (Lynch) and an outside county or counties.

I am aware that the Commission faces problems in making the apportionment, but I believe the logistics and the amenities favor making the new Senate District from Silver Bow and counties to the East, and in keeping District #43 wholly within Silver Bow County. I urge you to do this.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence G. Stimatz

NAME: DELWYN GAGE DATE: 8-20-83

ADDRESS: Box 1027, Cut Bank, MT 59427

PHONE: 873-4662

REPRESENTING WHOM? SENATE DIST #7

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: REAPPORTIONMENT

DO YOU: SUPPORT? \_\_\_\_\_ AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: IF WE ARE CONSIDERING THE COMMISSION  
REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE, I AM IN  
FAVOR OF AMENDING IT.

NAME: SENATOR MARK ETCHART DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: BOX 229  
GLASGOW, MT

PHONE: 228-2181

REPRESENTING WHOM? SENATE DISTRICT 2

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: REAPPORTIONMENT

DO YOU: SUPPORT? \_\_\_\_\_ AMEND? ☒ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

WOULD LIKE TO SEE

THE CHET SOLBERG PLAN

ADOPTED

NAME: Gary ALLESTAD DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: Capital Station

PHONE: 432-3915

REPRESENTING WHOM? S Dist 6

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 5

DO YOU: SUPPORT? \_\_\_\_\_ AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? X

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

I will make recommendations

NAME:

Sen Ed Smith

DATE:

1-20-83

ADDRESS:

Helena — Dwyer Mt

PHONE:

~~48~~ 449-6021

REPRESENTING WHOM?

Senate # 1

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

SR # 3

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

X

COMMENTS:

NAME: Bernie Swift DATE: 1/20/83

ADDRESS: SE 206 Roselane Hamilton & 1900 Broadway, Helena

PHONE: Am 363-2172 - Helena 442-9558

REPRESENTING WHOM? Ravalli County

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SR4

DO YOU: SUPPORT? \_\_\_\_\_ AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? w/o change in Reapportionment plan

COMMENTS: I appose the commissions present

plan as proposed for Ravalli County - This, as I

understand it, is Plan A. I am recommending

an Alternate Plan B that has previously

been submitted to the Commission on three

different occasions - (Hearings). A map outlining

this proposal accompanies this statement

setting forth Alternate Plan B. I respectfully

request the Committee's concurrence on this

proposal for the reasons set forth in my testimony.

Bernie Swift

Representative Dist. #91

I am also speaking for other Ravalli Co legislators & Citizens -

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY