MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT

The meeting was called to order by Representative Vince Snowbarger
Chairperson

____ at

7:45 a.m./紫森 on ____ February 28,

All members were present except:

Representatives Bunten, and Jenkins, both excused

Committee staff present:

Fred Carmen, Revisor of Statutes Robert Coldsnow, Legislative Counsel Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Marian Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Brad Bryant, Secretary of State's Office Linda Schreppel, Labette County Clerk

Mary Galligan explained the background and purpose of HCR-5032. Both the Special Committee on Legislative, Judicial and Congressional Apportionment from this summer's interim work and the Special Committee on Federal and State Affairs recommended this resolution to amend section 3 of article 6 of the state constitution. If approved by the voters, it would decouple the board of education member districts from the state senate districts.

Chairman Snowbarger opened the meeting for public hearings on $\frac{HCR-5032}{V}$. No conferees appeared to testify on $\frac{HCR-5032}{V}$. Hearings were closed.

Legislative Counsel Bob Coldsnow gave an overview of $\underline{\text{HB-3014}}$. This bill would govern the setting of precinct boundaries. It is designed to conform to federal census requirements, to clarify procedures for reporting of changes by local and county officials, and to facilitate the Secretary of State's performance of statutory duties.

Chairman Snbowbarger opened the meeting for public hearings on $\underline{\mbox{HB-3014}}.$

Brad Bryant, on behalf of the Secretary of State, spoke basically in favor of the bill (Attachment 1). Some minor change was suggested and discussed.

Linda Schreppel, Labette County Clerk, presented the county clerk's point of view on $\underline{HB-3014}$ (Attachment 2). This presentation concluded the hearings on $\underline{HB-3014}$. Discussion followed regarding points raised in her presentation. Hearings were closed.

Fred Carman, Revisor of Statutes, handed out a balloon on <u>HCR-5032</u> showing one minor change on page 2, line 22 to read "single-member districts," and deleting line 23. If this bill is passed this committee would be drawing the school board districts in 1992. Following discussion, <u>Representative Reardon moved to change the election date to November and to incorporate the single member change noted in the balloon. Motion seconded by Representative Freeman. Motion carried. Representative Freeman moved to pass the bill as amended. Seconded by Representative Adam. Motion carried.</u>

Committee will meet again tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m. in Room 526-S.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

GUEST LIST

COMMITTEE: HOUSE LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL & CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT **DATE:** 2-28-90 PLEASE PRINT ADDRESS COMPANY/ORGANIZATION

Office of the Secretary of State Testimony In Support of H.B. 3014

Brad Bryant, Kansas Census Director February 28, 1990

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Reapportionment Committee:

As a representative of the office of the Secretary of State, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you in support of H.B. 3014.

Our office has been deeply involved with census work, and census geography, for the past three years. The organization of the state's election geography in preparation for both the 1988 Kansas Census and the 1990 U.S. Census has been an enormous task, especially in light of the fact that some of the things the state is doing today regarding election geography have never been done before in Kansas. The development of a centralized file of precinct maps in particular has required changes in standard operating procedures at three levels of government: local, county and state. Progress has been made, although not always without resistance.

One of the most important things we have learned during the past few years is that change is never-ending. When one census project is complete, it is time to begin preparation for the next.

The provisions of H.B. 3014 will streamline the process of local and county officials' reporting of election precinct changes to the Secretary of State's office. It will require officials to report boundary changes in a timely manner, whereas up to now it has sometimes been unclear what is required and when. If passed, the bill will assist the Secretary of State in carrying out his statutory duties, but it will not require large-scale changes in anyone's duties. Our office has worked with the legislature in recent years to educate local and county officials about the new system, and many of those officials have responded well. This bill will further those efforts.

There is only one provision in H.B. 3014 that we believe should be reconsidered. The freeze on precinct boundary changes as described in Section 2 is considerably longer than the current freeze, which began January 1, 1988 and ends December 1, 1990. Although it will not directly affect our office, we play a "middleman" role in receiving precinct boundary changes from counties and reporting them to the U.S. Census Bureau. We believe the counties would object to a five year freeze each decade. H.B. 3014 should be passed, but the freeze on precinct boundary changes outlined in Section 2 should be shortened to accommodate those counties who, because of rapid growth and population shifts, need increased flexibility to change their election geography to reflect the demographic changes they face.

DATE: February 28, 1990 RE: House Bill No. 3014

The County Clerks across the state are willing to provide precinct boundary maps with full detailed, written descriptions in the prescribed manner. We have absolutely no problem with any part of HB 3014 except for the five year freeze for any changes in a precinct boundary.

There are certain reasons the County Clerk would have to change or create a new precinct. Such would be the case if a 3rd class city should have an island annexation in a different township. I draw your attention to Labette County's taxing unit map. These two island annexations are actually part of the city of Altamont. They are allowed to vote on all city questions and council members yet they are still a part of a separate township. What is the clerk to do about a new precinct boundary within the five year freeze?

Your consideration to this question will certainly be appreciated.

Linda Schreppel Labette County Clerk

