

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Mailing Packet for the July 16, 2001 Public Hearing

**Park City 6:00 p.m. Santy Auditorium
1255 Park Avenue**

List of Enclosures

- **Redistricting Committee Meeting Schedule**
- **Notice of Public Hearing**
- **Agenda**
- **Minutes of June 28, 2001 Public Hearings**

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 26	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
May 10	3:00 p.m.	Brigham City
May 10	6:30 p.m.	Box Elder Middle School Auditorium 18 South 500 East, Brigham City
May 16	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
May 30	1:00 p.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
June 7	12:00 p.m.	Tooele Co. Health Dept. Auditorium 151 North Main Street
June 7	6:00 p.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
June 28	12:00 p.m.	Sevier County Commission Rm. 250 North Main St, Richfield
June 28	6:00 p.m.	SUU Smith Student Ctr, Starlight Rm. 351 West Center, Cedar City
July 12	12:00 p.m.	Carbon County Courthouse, 120 East Main St, Price
July 12	6:00 p.m.	Utah County Administration Bldg, Room 800, 100 East Center, Provo
July 16	6:00 p.m.	Santee Auditorium, 1255 Park Avenue, Park City
August 9	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
August 30	2:00 p.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
Sept. 6	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129
Sept. 28	9:00 a.m.	State Capitol, Room 129

Revised 7/26/2001

NOTICE OF MEETING

TO: Redistricting Committee
FROM: Stewart E. Smith, Redistricting Team Manager
DATE: July 10, 2001
SUBJECT: July 16 Public Hearing

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups and Rep. Gerry A. Adair have scheduled a meeting of the Redistricting Committee as follows:

DATE: **Monday, July 16, 2001**
TIME: **6:00 p.m.**
PLACE: **Santy Auditorium**
1255 Park Avenue, Park City

An agenda is included. If you are unable to attend, please call me or Alicia Gambles at 538-1032.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Senate Chair
Rep. Gerry A. Adair, House Chair

Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. Beverly Evans
Sen. Pete Suazo
Sen. John L. Valentine
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. Chad E. Bennion

Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Katherine M. Bryson
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. James R. Gowans

Rep. Wayne A. Harper
Rep. Thomas V. Hatch
Rep. Loraine T. Pace
Rep. Jack A. Seitz
Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff
Rep. Glenn L. Way

AGENDA
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE
Park City Public Hearing

Monday, July 16, 2001 – 6:00 p.m. – Santy Auditorium, 1255 Park Avenue

1. **Call to Order** - Representative Gerry A. Adair
2. **Committee Business**
Introductions
3. **Introduction to Redistricting**
Staff Presentation - Rich C. North
4. **Summary of Committee Progress to Date**
5. **Public Input/Comments**
Guests are requested to state their name for the record, and if representing others, the name of the organization.
6. **Future Communications with Committee**
Future Public Meeting Schedule
Submitting additional comments to the Redistricting Committee
e-mail: Redistricting@le.state.ut.us
web site: www.le.state.ut.us/interim/2001/interim.html
fax: (801) 538-1712
address: Redistricting Committee, Rm 436 State Capitol, SLC, UT 84114
7. **Adjourn**

**MINUTES OF THE
REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, June 28, 2001 - 12:00 p.m. – Sevier County Auditorium, Richfield**

Members Present:

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Chair
Rep. Gerry A. Adair, Chair
Sen. John L. Valentine
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. Chad E. Bennion
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Katherine M. Bryson
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Thomas V. Hatch
Rep. Loraine T. Pace
Rep. Jack A. Seitz
Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff

Members Excused:

Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. Beverly Evans
Sen. Pete Suazo
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Wayne A. Harper
Rep. Glenn L. Way

Staff Present:

Mr. Stewart E. Smith, Redistricting Team Manager
Mr. John L. Fellows, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Research Analyst
Mr. Jerry D. Howe, Research Analyst
Mr. Richard C. North, Research Analyst
Mr. Mark J Allred, Technical Support
Mr. Joseph T. Wade, Research Analyst
Ms. Alicia Gambles, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and handouts distributed are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

- 1. Call to Order** - Chair Adair called the public hearing to order at 12:10 p.m.
- 2. Committee Business - Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: Rep. Biskupski moved to approve the minutes of the May 30, 2001 meeting and the June 7, 2001 public hearings in Tooele and Salt Lake City.

AMENDED MOTION: Rep. Bennion moved to amend the May 30 minutes with respect to the discussion on communities of interest with Mr. Patrick Cohen. He would like to listen to the tape and elaborate on Mr. Cohen's comments. The motion passed unanimously.

- 3. Introduction to Redistricting**

Mr. Joseph Wade, Research Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, presented an overview on the redistricting process. He indicated the population shifts in Utah, specifically the southern counties in Utah and stated that Utah is the fourth fastest growing state in the nation. He indicated the need for the districts to be adjusted to equalize their population with the districts in other counties. He indicated that Senate District 28 grew by 26 percent and needs 74 people to meet the total overall deviation for the state. Committee discussion followed.

- 4. Public Input/Comments**

Mr. Mark Fuellenbach, The Richfield Reaper, stated that they would like to have a little rural-flavor in all of the districts. He asked the committee to keep the districts as close to county boundaries as possible for county clerks.

Chair Adair asked him how he would do that. Mr. Fuellenbach stated that he just wanted some good representation for rural Utah.

Rep. Biskupski asked why Mr. Fuellenbach would like to keep Richfield together, but had no issue with dividing Salt Lake County. Mr. Fuellenbach stated that from an economic standpoint, the rural districts should be kept together.

Mr. Jim Olsen, Gunnison resident, stated that Richfield would like to follow county and city lines. He stated that they realize they will lose some representation because Salt Lake City has grown so much, but indicated that rural Utah is much different than urban Utah and would like different representation for these areas. Mr. Olsen also stated that he liked the idea of following Highway 89 corridor as a natural geographic boundary for the Senate.

Mr. Mike Peterson, Utah Rural Electric Association, inquired about the factors that lock Utah into 75 districts. Chair Adair stated that the rules have already been established by the committee. Mr. Peterson asked if Chair Adair could elaborate on why there are only 75 House districts. Chair Adair stated that there is not room at the capitol to accommodate more representatives, but that they are planning to renovate the capitol, which would aid in adding seats. He also stated that tradition has been a factor in keeping the House districts at 75.

Rep. Bennion stated that the fiscal impact of adding more House seats is an important factor.

Rep. Hatch stated that if more House seats were added, representation would be lost. He stated that rural Utah is one big community of interest and that one reason rural Utah has been successful in promoting their agenda is because many representatives, whether they live in rural districts or not, have rural roots which helps them to understand those areas and their needs.

Sen. Waddoups asked what Richfield's community of interest is. He asked the audience to explain how they would like the lines to be drawn and which counties could be considered communities of interest.

Mr. Harold Jensen, Gunnison County resident, stated that there is not much in common with Sevier and Millard County except for the Sevier River which has been the cause of many problems. He indicated that in the six county association, Sevier County should be included with the eastern counties where they have much more in common with each other because they are rural.

Mr. Matthew Creamer, Richfield resident, encouraged the committee to consider the natural geographical boundaries that bring counties together. He indicated that Sevier County does not have much affinity with Millard and Juab County. He expressed his concern with the "spoke approach" and the potential of having all four congressmen come from a very small geographical area. He stated that this concept would not be beneficial to Utah.

Rep. Arent asked if they would like to see one rural-only district. Mr. Creamer stated that he would be in favor of a rural-only district which includes St. George.

Chair Adair asked everyone to remember that no matter which county you are from, we are all Utahns and we all have that interest in common.

Mr. Mark Anderson, Sanpete County resident, asked the committee to consider expanding the legislature, so that the state could have more representation. He indicated that it would be more beneficial to have more representatives in the Utah House of Representatives than a fourth congressman in Washington. He also stated that rural Utah feels that they do not have a voice in the legislature. Mr. Anderson reiterated that when building a new school, a drag-on classroom is initially added. He asked if it would be in the best interest of the state to

remodel in a way that would allow for an expansion for when the population shifts in the future. He stated that preparing for this renovation would be less costly in the long run.

Rep. Bush rejected the idea of increasing the legislature to help the state of Utah. He indicated that bigger is not always better. He disagreed with Mr. Anderson and indicated that there is plenty of representation for all districts and that each representative represents the whole state, not just their district or area. He concluded that adding more representatives in the House would confuse the issue.

Ms. Sandy Phillips, Monroe resident, stated that dividing a county would also divide schools. She said there are enough divisions already and that she would like to see Sevier County stay together. She also agreed with considering the natural geographical boundaries.

Chair Adair said that it is important to understand that the committee has tried to be fair, equitable, and moral in the process. He indicated that redistricting is one of the most important things elected representatives will do because it will effect everyone for the next ten years.

Rep. Hatch commended the public for taking an active part in the process and encouraged them to contact him or any member of the committee with any specific concerns and proposals to have more input in the process.

Mr. Shawn Fuellenbach, Sevier County Treasurer, expressed the concern of the county clerks in the area to follow county and natural geographic boundaries as much as possible.

5. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Valentine moved to adjourn the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Adair adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, June 28, 2001 - 6:00 p.m. – SUU Sharwan Smith Student Center**

Members Present:

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Chair
Rep. Gerry A. Adair, Chair
Sen. John L. Valentine
Rep. Chad E. Bennion
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Katherine M. Bryson
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Thomas V. Hatch
Rep. Loraine T. Pace
Rep. Jack A. Seitz
Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff
Rep. Glenn L. Way

Members Excused:

Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. Beverly Evans
Sen. Pete Suazo
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Wayne A. Harper

Staff Present:

Mr. Stewart E. Smith, Redistricting Team Manager
Mr. John L. Fellows, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Research Analyst
Mr. Jerry D. Howe, Research Analyst
Mr. Richard C. North, Research Analyst
Mr. Mark J Allred, Technical Support
Mr. Joseph T. Wade, Research Analyst
Ms. Alicia Gambles, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and handouts distributed are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1. **Call to Order** - Chair Adair called the public hearing to order at 6:10 p.m.
2. **Introduction to Redistricting**

Mr. Jerry Howe, Research Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, presented an overview on the redistricting process. He discussed the history of redistricting, the 2000 census results, and population shifts in Utah. He indicated that Utah has grown steadily since 1970 and stated that western states are growing faster than any other area in the nation. Committee discussion followed.

3. **Public Input/Comments**

Mr. Dennis Stowell, Iron County Commissioner, stated that they are faced with splitting Iron and Washington Counties. He said that they could live with cutting the northern or eastern part of the county and that the only other alternative is splitting Cedar City.

Rep. Hatch said that as the chair of the South-East Utah Redistricting Subcommittee, a plan is being developed for rural Utah and indicated that he would like to meet with those who are interested to receive their input.

Ms. Lois Bullock, Iron County Commissioner, said that she felt strongly that the committee will do what is right, but indicated she would like to see the final proposal before commenting on it. She said the committee should do as much as possible to keep the county intact.

Rep. Pace asked how Commissioner Bullock would divide the southern part of the county. Commissioner Bullock stated that she would prefer the county not be divided. The committee indicated that because of the growth in population, it is inevitable that the county will be split up in some way.

Commissioner Stowell indicated that Parowan has a lot in common with Beaver County and Panguitch and stated that it would be better to split the northern part of Iron County than to divide the southern counties.

Mr. Harold Shirley, Mayor of Cedar City, suggested that the committee consider putting 15,000 people with Iron County to make 34,000, which would even out the population. He requested that the committee keep the logical division of Beaver, Iron, Washington, Kane, and Garfield Counties together as they have already formed a working relationship. He also indicated that Millard County would have to be brought in to make the numbers equal, which would cause Sen. Blackham's district to be shifted. He suggested that they move some of southern Utah County into Sen. Blackham's District, then Sen. Dmitrich could take all of Carbon County, which would then give Sen. Evans Summit County.

Mayor Shirley also expressed his concern with regard to Cedar City and St. George. He stated that one senator cannot represent two colleges and make both of them happy. He stated that they would like to have a separate senator that represented each area, rather than having one that would please various areas. He concluded that their concern lies in being with those that are in close proximity to them because of their communities of interest.

Mr. Mervin W. Adair, Chairman, Iron County Republican Party, presented a proposal and indicated how the northern part of the southern counties could come together.

Mr. Keith Seegmiller, Secretary, Iron County Republican Party, read the proposal and requested that Washington County be used as one of the starting points for determining district boundaries and that the boundaries of adjacent districts be determined by moving north and east from that center. He further stated that the population centers are on the western side of Kane, Garfield, and Wayne Counties and that they should remain with the southwest districts, rather than being tacked onto the eastern districts where there is limited access to the area. He concluded that they strongly agree with the principle of keeping the districts as compact as possible.

Mr. John Bunkall, Southern Utah University student, stated that there should not be one whole congressional seat in Salt Lake City and that the committee should at least divide the county into two, if not three districts for more representation in Congress.

Sen. Valentine stated that political parties are irrelevant to the committee and that the committee will use the constitutionally permitted redistricting principles. He concluded that who gets elected does not concern this committee.

Sen. Waddoups stated that the committee is working as servants of the citizens in Utah and that their community of interest is the state of Utah.

Chair Adair reiterated that the committee wants to bend over backwards to be fair and stated that they have specifically not put the residences of the current incumbents in the House or the Senate on the state computers because they want to make the process non-partisan.

Mr. Edward T. Begay, Speaker of the Council, Navajo Nation, stated that the Navajo residents are concerned about their community of interest in San Juan County and requested that they be adequately represented in the state legislature. He suggested that the committee consider traveling to Blanding to hear what the citizens have to say there.

Mr. Derrick Watchman, Office of the President, Navajo Nation, stated that the Navajo Nation is a community of interest. He said that the reservation is a natural boundary and requested that the committee keep the Navajo people in mind.

Sen. Valentine stated that it is highly probable that San Juan County, which includes the Navajo Nation, will not be divided.

Commissioner Bullock thanked the committee for coming to Cedar City to discuss the redistricting process and receive input. She felt confident in leaving the redistricting process in the committee's hands and that committee decisions will be fair.

Rep. David Clark, House District 74, stated that it is an honor to be trusted with the responsibility of redistricting and thanked the committee for coming to Cedar City to receive input from the public. He indicated that his district is the second largest House district in the state with over 21,000 people in excess. He asked the committee to consider Washington County and the growth it will have in the future by giving them an opportunity to have a sizable portion of their own district by the 1-15 corridor to the city.

Rep. Demar Bowman, House District 72, stated that the logical thing to do for his district would be to put Paragonah, Parowan, Summit, and Brian Head in the adjacent district. He stated that he would support anything the committee comes up with for the Senate districts.

Mr. Steve Platt, former Iron County Republican Chairman, stated that he feels they are in good hands with the committee that has been selected to reapportion their districts. He indicated that Iron County is pleased with the national congressional House district as is and supports the Iron County Republican recommendation on the Senate districts. He stated that the one thing the committee could do better would be to have one senator per county.

4. Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Biskupski moved to adjourn the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Adair adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.