

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Glover
Vice Chairman Chaney
Mr. Beyer
Mrs. Ham
Mrs. Hayes
Mr. Hickey
Mr. Malone
Mr. Nicholas
Mr. Prengaman
Mr. Robinson
Mr. Sader

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS PRESENT: Andrew P. Grose, Research Director, LCB

Chairman Glover called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Room 200. He informed the committee that AB 704 needs to be amended.

AB 704: Defines boundaries of congressional districts.

Mr. Glover explained that the Democratic Caucus met that morning and since the bill as written with districts 2, 5 and 42 is incorrect as far as numbers are concerned, they felt that the best way to amend AB 704 was to include Assembly Districts 2, 5 and 12 plus enumeration districts from district 1 for contiguity. He indicated that they also wanted to change the Washoe County line in order to keep the number of democrats and republicans fairly even. Mr. Glover then asked Mr. Grose to explain and point out on the map these changes.

Mr. Andrew P. Grose, Research Director for the Legislative Counsel Bureau, said that the original AB 704 as introduced said that one district would be comprised of the rest of the state plus Assembly Districts 2, 5 and 42. He noted that since that bill was introduced several things have happened: 1) The number of district 42 was changed to 13; 2) Since the bill was requested district 13 is no longer contiguous to the rest of the state because Assembly District one now wraps around it. He explained that in order to get the connection between 13 and the rest of the state, one enumeration district is taken out of Assembly District 1, the Blue Diamond, Mt. Charleston enumeration district. He said that there are approximately 1,000 people in this ED. He added that the bill will be amended to read the rest of the state plus Assembly Districts 2, 5 and 13 and Enumeration District 14 of Assembly District 1.

As for the East-West plan, Mr. Grose explained that there are two ways to split Washoe County: 1) One way results in the two congressional districts being very close to the same in terms of the ratio of democrats to republicans; this line would run in a south-north direction along the Verdi Township over to Virginia Street, winding up and over the top of Sparks. 2) A line running along the Truckee River would result in a 2 to 3 percent higher democrat registration in Congressional District 1 and a correspondingly lower registration in Congressional District 2.

Mr. Glover advised the committee that a motion was needed to pass AB 704 out of committee to the floor of the Assembly without recommendation.

Dr. Robinson moved to pass the bill out of committee on to the floor of the Assembly without recommendation, seconded by Mr. Sader and carried unanimously by the members present with Mr. Chaney absent at the time of the vote.

Dr. Robinson moved to have an amendment drafted to fit the description that Mr. Grose stated previously; that the west district would include Assembly Districts 2, 5 and 13 and that portion of Assembly District 1 necessary to form a bridge to connect them to the rest of the state, seconded by Mr. Sader. The motion carried with Mr. Beyer, Mrs. Ham and Mr. Nicholas voting no and Mr. Chaney absent at the time of the vote.

Mr. Grose said that these amendments should be ready by the next morning, and Mr. Glover indicated that on that day there will be a Committee of the Whole in the Assembly to consider the east-west amendment first because if this passes there will be no point in considering any other amendments. He added that if that motion fails, then the bill passes as is or there can be other amendments offered at that time.

Since there was no further business, Chairman Glover adjourned the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Hatch

Patricia Hatch
Secretary