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January 18, 2001

MEMORANDUM

TO: LEGISLATIVE LEADERS

FROM: DIANE BOLENDER

RE: REPORT OF THE REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

The Redistricting Committee of the Legislative Council met on Tuesday, January 16, 2001, and adopted the enclosed report relating to the redistricting process for the 2001 redrawing of Congressional and legislative districts. The Committee requests that the legislative leaders implement the recommendations of the Committee.

If you have any questions about this report, do not hesitate to contact me or the Cochairpersons, Senator JoAnn Johnson and Representative Bob Brunkhorst.

REPORT OF THE REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Redistricting Committee of the Legislative Council met on January 16, 2001, and makes the following report and recommendations:

- I. That the joint rules of the House and Senate should include rules governing the consideration of proposed redistricting bills during the 2001 session of the Legislature. The rules would be the same as those adopted in 1991 for redistricting and would provide that redistricting bills prepared by the Legislative Service Bureau are not subject to the deadlines for consideration of bills, that the legislative body rejecting a proposed redistricting plan would be required to provide reasons for that rejection, and that amendments to the third proposed redistricting plan would have to encompass an entire redistricting plan for legislative districts, congressional districts, or both.
- II. That the Legislature should schedule a joint session of the House and Senate within the next three weeks for the purpose of having the Legislative Service Bureau provide the members of the Legislature with an overview and increased understanding of Iowa's redistricting process.
- III. That the Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission should seriously consider the use of the Iowa Communications Network during at least one of the three public hearings the Commission conducts concerning the first proposed redistricting plan as required by law.

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January 11, 2001

MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Leaders, Assistant Leaders, State Government Chairs, Vice-chairs, and

Ranking Members

FROM: Ed Cook, Legal Counsel

RE: Redistricting Committee of the Legislative Council meeting

The co-chairs of the Redistricting Committee have asked me to formally invite you to the next meeting of this committee on January 16, 2001, at 11:30 a.m. in the Reagan Committee Room. As per their request, I would welcome your presence at this meeting and have enclosed a tentative agenda for the meeting.

The Redistricting Committee was formed this past summer to advise the Legislative Council concerning various redistricting issues and to act as a liaison between the Legislative Service Bureau and the members of the General Assembly concerning issues involved with the redistricting process. An essential element of the committee's responsibility is to assist in the education of the members of the General Assembly concerning the redistricting process and to ensure that necessary redistricting decisions are made on a timely basis. As legislative leaders and House and Senate State Government committee officers, the co-chairs felt it important that you be extended a formal invitation to the meeting so that you can better familiarize yourself with the process and become better aware of all the issues concerning Iowa redistricting. Regardless of whether you are able to attend, please feel free to contact me concerning any questions you might have about redistricting. My telephone number is 1-3994.