



Bradner: Natives Did Well Under Reapportionment

Fairbanks Democratic Rep. Mike Bradner told the Tundra Times Monday that Alaska "natives probably made out extremely well" under the governor's plan for reapportionment of the state.

"It is obvious the governor did everything he could to save the rural districts," Bradner said.

But, he said, because of the "unique definition of 'one man one vote' " incorporated in the plan, he is "extremely afraid that if the plan goes to court it could be struck down."

Normally, Bradner said, "one house member must equal so many population and one senator must equal double that population if that's the basis the legislature is set up on."

However, said Bradner, the "plan presented evidently allows districts to vary in the house and senate considerably but claims where the house members

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under-present" the population they are "over-represented by the senate side."

For this reason, Bradner said, if the plan goes to court the Supreme Court will probably say this definition of "one man one vote" is more appropriate for a unicameral rather than a bicameral legislature and will send the plan "back to the drawing boards."

If this happens, he said, legislators may go into "April or May not knowing who their constituency is."

Bradner said, "I would rather ride with the status quo than go to court."