

April 17, 1975

trying to give a true identification of what interest is. Those of you that are familiar with discount points, know that during the tight money situation that those people who were selling their homes were penalized up to 16 to 17 discount points in order to sell their homes and that had to be charged against the seller rather than being the true interest rate of the loan. A discount point is 1/8 of 1%. That would be 1/8 of 1% interest over the loan. So an effective rate, if you had 16 discount points you would have another 2% that they could add on but the seller would pay the interest instead. This makes discount points included in interest and is within the 12% interest limit. The other factors are laid out as to what is exempt and what is not. I think Mr. President at this time, I would close on this opening remarks and wait for the comments, but I would ask that you consider two or three things. First of all I think that it is important to our economy that this bill is passed. Secondly I know that it is not politically popular, I remember when Senator DeCamp had it last year. It was negotiated on the floor, and Senator DeCamp was trying to do that last year in terms of what the interest rates should be. It is something that we need. If I hadn't felt that way, if I hadn't thought it was true that way, I certainly would not have identified with the bill but I think that it is very important and I urge you to advance it.

CLERK: Motion on the desk Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion.

CLERK: Warner motion read.

PRESIDENT: Chair Recognizes Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, as a preface I want to say a couple of things. I rise to oppose the bill as well as to offer a motion to indefinitely postpone. In twelve years of service to this Legislature I have consistently felt that you are not doing a favor to any citizen by making the borrowing of money too easy. The higher the interest rate is the easier it is to loan. The risk factor is less. Many people that I can think of have gotten into trouble because it was too easy to borrow money. I understand the arguments that will be made, and I will agree with them as a fact. That if the Federal Government is going to borrow 52 billion as a minimum to finance the federal budget plus how much more, anybody knows, or anybody could guess, that is going to have an adverse effect on the interest market in terms of driving it up. I would agree with Senator Lewis that the current high interest rates above the usury rate in Nebraska has probably curtailed the construction of homes. I would agree that it probably reduces the number of jobs. At least those that are in that occupation. I also have known where we have had bills introduced this session in this same area which they were also asking the law to be changed to extend the period of the loan, as well as the interest rate, because what was recognized was that if that interest rate got up to high the length of the loan had to be extended in order for those individuals to have the money to purchase anyway. All we ended up doing then was putting