

concern to you is whether it is germane or not, Senator Haberman, the point is of concern with you is that it is germane, that it will be adopted, and that it will pass into law. Now I have been told many reasons why we shouldn't do this. The point I want to make is that at some point in time we had better learn to be responsible, at some point in time we had better learn to accept what is our justifiable reason for being here. Nebraska is the only state in the nation, the only state in the nation which demands that we limit where we deposit public funds, for example, in the banks at an artificially low rate of interest. We heard that testimony before the Banking Committee and you were there, Senator Haberman, when the President of the Nebraska Bankers Association said we must pay low rates of interest for public funds so we can afford to loan them back out at lower than average rates. And then we turn around after forcing Nebraska public tax funds to be deposited in Nebraska banks at artificial low rates, we turn right around and we say, but, dammit, let the sky be the limit, let them charge whatever they can get. There isn't any limit to what they can charge because to do so, to do so would drive business out of Nebraska. Reminds me a little bit of a story, Senator Haberman says, don't need credit card, don't have to have a credit card, pay cash. That is fine for Senator Haberman. He is a wealthy man. He is a man of means. Senator Haberman, if I had to buy your boots, I couldn't afford to pay any rate of interest on them. I want to point out one more thing. Senator Haberman, as I said, doesn't need to borrow money, but it reminds me of a story of the young man who wrote insufficient fund checks back home, and they finally put him in jail for the weekend and said now maybe this will teach you not to write any checks unless you have got money in the bank. He looks the deputy sheriff right in the eye and he says, Spike, if I had money, I wouldn't have to write those checks. That is exactly what Senator Haberman is saying. He says let them eat cake. The facts are, Senator Haberman, we know, you know, I know, this Legislature knows that we have got to have, we have got to have some sort of limitation because the market system hasn't worked. I know what it is to be under pressure. I am under pressure. I have been told, let it alone, Schmit, it will solve itself. Three or four years in a row I, Senator Warner, others, have come before this body and attempted to put some degree of reasonableness in interest rates. Each year we have been told, well, wait until next year. Each year the rate of inflation declines. Each year the rate of CDs declines. Each year the amount of money earned by the people who save money in the State of Nebraska becomes less and becomes a point where it is not