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SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. President, members of the body, I think we are dealing with something that has been stable law in this state. We have dealt with it the last two years. We have raised it to 9% already and I think we are inviting an annual update of interest rates the way it is going with this bill and especially by raising this to 11%. I think because a temporary prime interest rate increase comes up that we should not joggle our books, penalize the poor people of the state and set into law a figure of interest that over the long term history of the state would be usurious to the people of the state. I think that reasonable and moderate interest charges are in line, but to go to 11%, fix it in law, causing this Legislature again if the interest rates drop down 2% to go over this issue a year from now is unreasonable at best. I would hope the body rejects this, then rejects the bill and just allows these statutes that have allowed people to even protest taxes. These originated in the thirties when we had tax bills that were confiscating farms and elderly people's houses. I think we should keep these on the books if we come into another financial crisis in this state and not set up the state over all us, either all us, but think of the state and the subdivisions as servants of the people rather than the people subjects to be taken by the state. I think that is the issue.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Carsten for purpose of closing.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise first for an answer for clarification and I may be in error but I believe I am right and I would ask the Clerk for this, did we not adopt the last part of the committee amendments yesterday and left the interest rate separated? Didn't we divide the question and when he says adopt or reject the committee amendments, if we follow Senator Dworak's plan or move or suggestion, we are only rejecting the first part of the amendment and I would like that to be clarified?

PRESIDENT: As the Chair understood it, and I was not here yesterday, but we are only on amendment one which the question was divided and it is #1 which is to strike original sections 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Okay, I wanted that for clarification and for closing I don't think we need to say anything more. It has been pretty well explained I think by various people of the committee action and the reasoning why and I think it is from those explanations that you need to make your judgment.