

March 3, 1981

LB 150

SENATOR COPE: He is in the back room.

PRESIDENT: He is coming. Here he comes.

SENATOR COPE: Senator DeCamp, what happened to the 16% interest we were talking about the last time? I supported the bill. I think it was good with the charge for the credit card and we were talking 16% as I remember. Where did that go?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, Senator Cope, I don't recall a 16% discussion on credit cards. Maybe it is some topic of conversation I missed. We do have a 16% usury limit, general usury. In other words, that is the maximum amount under certain circumstances from zero to \$25,000 for example...

SENATOR COPE: I know.

SENATOR DeCAMP: ...that they can charge. To the best of my knowledge this was never involved in credit cards, to the best of my knowledge.

SENATOR COPE: What is the limit on credit cards as now?

SENATOR DeCAMP: The limit now is 18% and over \$500 it goes to 12%. One bank has used a loophole and automatically charges 24%. I am trying to set a flat fee of 19%, I think Senator Landis suggested 18 was more reasonable, across the board to prevent them from going to 24. That is my goal.

SENATOR COPE: All right, if we pass the law at 19% that will prohibit them from 24, can't we pass a law for 18% just as well?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Indeed we can if that would make you happy. I would here and now make it 18% across the board and I offer that amendment and I just happen to have it ready here.

SENATOR COPE: Get all you can. If we stay within the limit that we now have on credit cards exactly, 12% the whole bit as we are now but make a up to \$24 charge for a card, then I can support the bill.

PRESIDENT: All right, amendment on the desk, Mr. Clerk. There is an amendment on the desk for amending the DeCamp amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator DeCamp moves to amend his own amendment. (Read DeCamp amendment as found on page 727 of the Legislative Journal.)