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LB 778

SENATOR COPE: Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, I wonder if Senator DeCamp would respond to a question please. Senator DeCamp, you might have already answered this when you were visiting with Senator Cope but what we are talking about here, on an operating note from a bank, a six month note, right now is it a variable interest? Can they change interest rate during that six month period?

SENATOR DeCAMP: No, that is a contracted note. You sign a piece of paper that has writing on it as to what the rate is, and if the rate now says, fourteen percent, sixty days or six months, that is what the rate is. However, there are loans being made now where it says on the contract or in the note, it says one and a half percent over the prime or it says...it says variable in it, something like that. Both types exist and I am saying more and more banks are using the variable. This clears it up that it is a legal item. It also makes the bank, lending institution, know that they can make a longer term note because now they don't have to worry about those daily, weekly, monthly changes, and as you recall in a period of like six months which was the traditional note, you used to be able to get a minimum of six months in any note, you were having rate changes so fast and so rapid that what was sensible six months before the note was due became obsolete and costly either to the banker or the consumer and so this provides that flexibility to follow or track whatever the rates are. Therefore the lending institution is going to be willing to make that six month or year note. If you noticed what occurred here the last year or so was institutions started making three months notes. Regularly they would only go three months or even shorter in some cases and so this legitimizes what is going on in many cases...

SENATOR VICKERS: Senator DeCamp, you can use part of this in your closing.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay.

SENATOR VICKERS: I was just curious as to whether or not this was actually going to affect the ability of banks or the ability of borrowers to get a guarantee of a certain interest rate for a six months period of time at least and I would assume that banks would still be able if they so choose to do so...