

ought to be able to compete with PCAs. It seems to me that it would be a sad mistake for us to take that kind of action on this legislative floor. For that reason I would oppose the kill motion.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I don't usually get myself involved in banking bills but I just want to say something briefly. It would be easy here if we would just say to farmers and bankers, bankers, you can only charge seven percent interest to farmers and we would assume that they would do it. It is impossible. Whatever the interest rate is and whatever the bank is paying for its money, they have to charge a little more than what they are paying or they can't keep their doors open. I look back in the past when we would set limits at nine percent, cry what we are doing to the consumer. If we set the rate too lower, whatever it is, the bankers cannot make loans or the lending institutions cannot make loans. They have to make a profit. What that profit now is variable. It varies from day to day as you well know. I see nothing wrong with the bill and I oppose the kill motion simply because we say you can't charge more than a certain percent of interest doesn't make it so. The bankers know what it is. The people borrowing money know that it fluctuates. I think it is a good bill.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I arise to oppose the kill motion. A question of Senator Burrows, please.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Burrows.

SENATOR BURROWS: Certainly.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Did you make some reference to the Production Credit Association or Federal Land Bank?

SENATOR BURROWS: Yes.

SENATOR HABERMAN: And what was your remarks?

SENATOR BURROWS: They are excluded and this situation leaves an alternative financing situation between the bank with the fixed interest rate and PCA with a variable rate. This leaves a farmer a choice, and if you give them both the variable rate, the farmer no longer, or the homeowner, has a choice.