

community today is people doing indirectly those things that we have tried to prohibit or inhibit directly. I have had to conclude that given the basic changes occurring in the financial community today that it would be unwise for us to continue to blindly oppose restructuring legislation. That is my personal feeling. So then I sat down and took a look at LB 626 because I said to myself, is this a bill I really want to support as it is currently drafted? Or, instead, are there some changes I think ought to be made to it so that when we pass structure legislation into law we have a good piece of legislation, something that I can say is a responsible piece. There were at least two things that struck my attention. The first thing was the fact that we had a 10% limitation on multibank holding companies on all deposits and that was a very liberal ceiling, in my own opinion. I felt that the ceiling should be lower than that. It is my understanding for example that Iowa has a ceiling of only 8% of bank deposits whereas our bill has a ceiling of 10% of all deposits. I said, you know, without any question, going into multibank holding company legislation does permit some concentration of wealth and power. But it may well be that it will be appropriate for us not to allow at this point, such a quick concentration. So it seems to me that it would be better to set in effect the deposit ceiling, or the asset ceiling at 10% of bank deposit. So, that is what I did. Secondly, I said now what about this whole reciprocity issue. What is reciprocity really mean? What does it really do? Now one of the things that I think we want to do for the next decade is we want to make certain that our major financial institutions whether they be the Omaha National Bank, the First National Bank of Omaha, the United States National Bank of Omaha, the First National Bank of Lincoln, the National Bank of Commerce in Lincoln and the other major institutions be in a position where they can be strong regional centers, strong regional centers, not just state centers but regional centers. So it struck me that one way of assuring that possibility was to develop, to use this reciprocity concept so that our own major banks, as they began to move into the multibank holding company posture would at least have the ability to acquire facilities in contiguous states, so long as contiguous state legislatures pass. . .

PRESIDENT: One minute Senator Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: . . . comparable legislation. So that was part of my thinking on it. In addition it seemed to me that allowing multibank holding companies from the contiguous states to be able to acquire banks in our own state provided an increased level of competition between the banks from the