

Senator Hefner and others who have felt that the 15 percent was too high of a concentration. And it became kind of an issue in the past as to how many banks you could have concentrate the wealth in the state, and the simple facts are we went from 9 to 12 percent, as I recall, and we cut from 11 banks possible down to about eight banks. And so under the 12 percent idea, theoretically, albeit a theory, excuse me, but theoretically you could have eight banks in the state control all the assets of the financial institutions in the state. What is going to happen under this amendment by increasing to 13, 14, and 15 percent, if you would go to the 15 percent, you would be down to as few as six entities in the state controlling all the assets, the financial assets of the state, and I have been opposed to that. I also am cognizant of what has happened with the failing bank legislation that we have passed, the failing savings and loan legislation we are considering now, and the interstate banking situation of the legislation that we have passed sometime ago, and it has been pointed out to me and to all of us that while we are talking about a high concentration of bank interests in a small amount of companies that, nevertheless, we are talking about no chance of these entities ever being large in relation to national interest. As I think it was explained to both Senator Landis and I that our largest institution is not even close to the top 100 banks in the nation right now. And with interstate banking coming on line, and I believe it starts, it triggers January of '91, and it will kick into our reciprocity agreements, that we really will be in a national banking market. So we do have probably only two choices, either allow our institutions to grow and be one of the players nationally, or to keep the grips on and possibly allow us to become a branch or be bought out by one of the larger banks in the country. Now I am not interested in doing that and I am not sure that any of you are as well. So I have mixed feelings on exactly which is the best way to go. I did support the first part of this. I think it is a good idea. As Senator Landis has pointed out, when you acquire a failing bank, those assets are not part of your concentration, your restrictions as far as percentage of wealth. Similarly, the failing institutions under the RTC will not be part of the concentration percentages, but in both cases, any growth, and there has been growth in the failing banks, and any growth in the failing savings and loans will be part of that cap. So I think we are in a little bit of a dilemma. I don't want to see high concentrations in a small number of entities in this state. I do, though, want to see us be competitive nationwide with the