

a harsh judgment for some to say, as I say that I'm not necessarily picking on larger banks. But I have observed and heard from first hand experience what it is, what it can be when local community needs are not understood and are not accordingly...treated accordingly. And I just, I guess maybe it could be considered a warning. I really don't want to be that harsh either. But I think that we have to recognize that communities are different, capital requirements are...are different. And simply to run banks to suck capital out of communities and not put them...put it back in appropriately, is something that we need to watch, and it should be a decision of the Legislature into the future. So, I simply wanted to make that point so that we are aware that needs are different. It could be done the same way on a national level. And I have been opposing... national banking. I know there is a tremendous effort at the national level to consolidate banks because many fail to compete internationally they have to be larger. And they, in turn, may well suck funds out of the Midwestern regions, back to especially the east coast and perhaps the west coast, too. So, the same thing can exist on the national level as I am concerned about on a state level, and that is moving these money...these capital funds around based on, strictly on return on investment or whatever. I realize this is a capitalistic economy we have. But there still needs to be concerns for local communities. We could say it on a national level, there still needs to be concern for states and what the capital needs are in those areas. So, I simply raise the issue to point out what I think is a need that we need to really be looking at. And if there is, in fact, an informal agreement that there will be nothing on this for a couple of years, I applaud that, but I simply want to say that I am going to be looking very carefully, in the future, as to what the structure for banking will be in this state.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam Chairman, members of the body, I'm part of this...my county, I guess, is part of this...this grand merger compromise, as Senator Landis, with his things and so forth. And I guess my problem with this legislation is that why are we limiting to counties like this, because I see over the horizon that we're going to face banking where we're going to have unlimited banking with all counties, and maybe the same fear that Senator Wehrbein raises is that we're going to have, you know, maybe money going out of the state, and so forth, with