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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I'm not going to debate that because I'm not a constitutional lawyer, obviously. Maybe you are. Maybe you understand it better than I do. But it would appear to me that, as I indicated earlier, I think people are being overcharged for interest on these, and I guess that's their choice if they want to charge something. But the economy is such that now interest rates are at an all-time low and we're still saying that these people who charge through a credit card are going to be charged 16, 17, 18 percent. And what's interesting to me, we talk about who it's going to hurt, well, those credit card companies must not be hurting too bad, because at least once or twice a week I get a letter from them wanting me to change my credit card over to a credit card company, and so I don't think they're suffering too bad. I just can't support this amendment to change this section of this law, because, in a way, I think it's going to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...tend to destroy the bill, and I don't want to do that. I think this bill is worth the time we've spent on it and, therefore, I think this is, in my opinion, damaging to the bill. And what we're trying to do, as most of you understand, is where some of these people are making a great deal less money than they did when they were in the private sector or in a job somewhere, trying to ease the pain that they're being charged with since they're now in the military and drawing many, many, many times a lot less money than they did in the private sector. So we're trying to do something to take away some of that pain, and I think that's a fair thing to do. With that, thank you, Mr. President. I turn the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Schimek, on the Beutler amendment to LB 963. She waives the opportunity to speak. Senator Chambers, you are next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this bill is more complex than people realize. When you get to the green copy of the bill, that was introduced by itself. The