

that the states can no longer make a rule like that. Is that right?

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes, but I, personally, think it will come...

SENATOR BEUTLER: They preempt the area.

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes. That is what the big banks are attempting to get passed in Congress. Okay? At the same time states now have the right to do that themselves, to pass a law and say, come on down. Question, then next if you are going to do that, do you want to give your own financial institutions in your state the same right that you are giving somebody else? For example, if you say, come on down New York, then should you have, in the famous word that we had the big battle about, reciprocity, the right for our institutions to go out into that particular state? So that is the interstate banking battle. I repeat, I, personally, think that it is inevitable that some form of interstate banking will come about. I would hope that we would have our institutions strong enough in this state, by the time that occurs that we would have a mixed banking system, in other words it wouldn't be just a Bank of America, it would be a combination of the unit banks and some of the moderate sized banks and some homegrown institutions...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR DECAMP: ...and some larger institutions.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, Senator DeCamp, let me ask you one more question with this portion of my time. Let's say that then interstate banking does come. Then I assume that all of our institutions, all of our local institutions, Nebraska institutions, including even FirstTier, would be subject to takeover attempts by the large institutions around the country. Is that true, or not true?

SENATOR DECAMP: Absolutely.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is there any way, in your opinion, that any of our institutions, including FirstTier, could successfully defend themselves now or at any time in the