

as a legislator, to support legislation that essentially allowed for the strengthening of the banking system, and that, frankly, allowed some concentration of wealth and power. So notwithstanding my original misgivings, which still exist about the concentration of wealth and power, I conclude that federal deregulation, that economic changes at the national level, and that agricultural changes at the local level basically compel me to support some changes to our bank structure. I am inclined to think that if we simply went with the Beutler-Harris notion of the 10 percent limitation...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...we would not have made as significant a change in these troubled times as we probably need to do. If we go with the 20 percent original limitation of the bill, we've gone too far, far more than I can brook. 14 percent may not be so bad, 12 percent is a figure that is a reasonable figure for the next several years. I think that is the one we ought to settle on and to go with. The one question I am going to ask Roger Beverage and others between now and the time this measure goes to Select File or advances, is whether or not the current exception from limitations to failing banks needs to continue in place if we go from a 9 percent figure to a 12 percent figure. It could well be that that current exception becomes an anachronism with that kind of a change in ceilings. If so, I think we ought to repeal that particular exception. Other than that I would support the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, you are next. However, let me introduce some guests of Senator Conway under the north balcony. They are all from Wayne, Nebraska. They are Roger Gamble, Paul Longmore, Mark Steele, Derald Boschult and Al Rotter. They are members of the Wayne State College Republicans. Would you please stand and be recognized by the Legislature. Thank you. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator DeCamp, a couple of more questions, if I may. The figures you gave us with regard to the FirstTier banks, Omaha National, First National of Lincoln, \$1.2 billion, \$1.3 billion or right in there, does that figure include assets of failed banks that they have picked up that are not included in the limitation?