

SENATOR DECAMP: I do not believe it does. I am seeing a head...yes, it does. That information comes from Mr. Adams who is sitting on the outside of the window. He is signaling yes. I assume that is correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: How much of those assets then...so we need to subtract from that some assets in order to determine how close they are to the 9 percent limitation. Would that be correct?

SENATOR DECAMP: Why don't we do this, why don't I find, within the next few minutes if I can, just how close to the actual 9 percent limitation FirstTier would be. Let's just be honest, that is what we are talking about is FirstTier. I don't think there is any purpose in the legislation unless they have some flexibility to take over some institutions. I was told that they are at 8.7 percent now. I don't know if that is right or not. I will check it out. If they are, obviously, if you lowered it to 10, you are accomplishing nothing there. That is why I am suggesting 12.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, if they are at 8.7 and you lower it to 10, that would give them the power to...it depends on the type...the size of institutions you are talking about. Right? That would still give them the power to pick up a half dozen...if you are talking about banks the size of Verdigre or those kinds of banks, they could still pick up a dozen or more of those, could they not?

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes, I presume so, but I think you should remember you don't maybe deliberately go out and only buy the worst things. When you are trying to do these things I assume they also have goals of getting some strong institutions in some geographical locations they are not now, in the agriculture areas. That is what I presume. I think that makes sense. Therefore you are talking an institution of...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Since the limitation doesn't apply to failed banks, it really doesn't have to do with the failing bank situation other than we are giving the director, apparently, some authority to, if he so chooses, to guide FirstTier towards the failing banks. Is that correct?

SENATOR DECAMP: I think...