

SENATOR GOODRICH: It's about 176, isn't it, close to it...that's close enough for government work. All right, now let's say, for example, that you reduce this to 10 percent, like you want to and let's say any two of the institutions on this slip of paper that you have got passed out to you goes under, any two of them. You have virtually wiped out the ability of the largest institution you have in the State of Nebraska to do anything about it. Consequently, I think you are going in the wrong direction. You are being too restrictive. For example, if two of these go under, you don't want to limit yourself so that you have literally wiped out the ability of getting FirstTier at least to take over, to rescue it. You are asking for a disaster, Elroy, if you're...

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Goodrich, failing banks, we've got another law that covers them.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes, but...

SENATOR HEFNER: We just passed that last year.

SENATOR GOODRICH: But you are saying, in essence, that 10 percent is the limit that they can grow to, regardless of whether they are failed or unfailed, acquired that way.

SENATOR HEFNER: That isn't quite right, Senator Goodrich. If a bank has failed, well, this law doesn't pertain to that.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Well, anyhow I still think we can talk about whether it is or it isn't included in the limitation, whether the failed portion is included in the limitation or not. But I think you are asking for a disaster if you wind up going to ten. I would strongly urge this body not to do that, not to eliminate the ability of the largest financial institutional group, which is the combination of FirstTier, Omaha and First National Lincoln, to be able to even be in the market for the take-over in the event any two of these other banks should happen to get in trouble and need to be taken over, or need to be merged. You would be wiping out the largest potential rescuer if you do this, if you go down to ten. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Were you through, Senator Goodrich? Okay. Senator DeCamp.