

devastating. We could regulate the state S & Ls possibly, but what we've done to even keep a state S & L system in this state is we've given them, we just passed the bill probably, maybe while I was gone, we just passed the bill that allows them to have the same rights as the federal. Each year we do that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, thank you, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR DECAMP: Roger Beverage just confirmed there is no limit on S & Ls, even at the federal level.

SENATOR BEUTLER: There is no federal limit, not even 20 percent? Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, question of Senator DeCamp, please.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, would you respond, please?

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes.

SENATOR LAMB: I, too, have questions that probably are maybe considered dumb. As I understand it there is resistance to interstate banking by FirstTier. Has this been covered to this morning? I didn't hear all the conversation. I guess I'm confused because in your remarks to Senator Hefner you indicated that it is important that there be competition out there, that there be the ability for some banks to grow and loan money to agriculture and to other borrowers. But I guess I'm really confused about, well, the Special Session bill which would have allowed interstate banking. Here we have FirstTier adamantly opposed to interstate banking. They are saying competition is good within the state, but it is terrible when you involve other states, outside the state. FirstTier, as I understand, is the biggest bank holding company in the state and virtually without competition on that level within the state. So I just have not been able to understand how you can, on one hand, say we need more and bigger banks in the state and more competition, but we do not need the competition from without the state. I don't see the logic of these state lines, these arbitrary state lines where we don't...you know, we ship grain. We trade...we buy cars that are made