

National and take 6 percent. The depositors of money, and God bless them, we need them, but they have enjoyed six or seven years of excellent income. As inflation comes down, so should interest rates. I would hope that others would join me in trying to make some expression of bringing sanity back to interest rates. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I rise to support what Senator Schmit is attempting to do, even though I recognize, as Senator DeCamp has pointed out to us, that the reality of this situation may not be one in which we can actually get something done. But I look at this problem and I recognize, as Senator Schmit has pointed out to us today and yesterday, that we have to do something and we are limited, our hands are tied as far as what we can do. We can keep the taxes down, we can try and keep the regulations to a minimum. But I would suggest this, is this any less rational than what the Minnesota State Senate has already adopted in adopting a one-year moratorium on farm foreclosures in their state? Now we're at a time, in the farm economy, where we are grasping for every straw that we can get to bolster agriculture and get it back on its feet and keep some of those farmers out on the land. The last few nights I've had the distinct pleasure of going out and talking to some of these farm crisis groups and let me tell you, they're not a very pleasant audience to address. They are angry, they are bitter, they are frustrated and they are asking us to do something. This is one piece of legislation that we can do something with. It is something that we can take back with us, when we go to Washington, and say we are trying to do something about interest rates. I believe that it was a Nebraska congressman who addressed our group not too long ago, maybe it was last week, that indicated to us that 1 percent of interest that would be dropped off would be worth about \$2 billion to agriculture. What we're proposing here is quite a significant drop off and so it would be worth a heck of a lot to Nebraska farmers and ranchers. I think if interest rates would come down, no matter what the farm programs that we try and adopt in Congress, it would help everybody across the board, whether you're a cattle feeder, whether you're a hog producer or whether you're a corn grower or a soybean grower or whatever. Bringing down interest rates will help us all. Now as Senator DeCamp has pointed out to us, we may be