

to banks and not savings and loans. It has almost no relationship to the asset portfolio of the average bank. If it was, that distinction would be at 22 percent, not 12 percent. Third, the amendment that John DeCamp has brought to us has no sunset. Everybody has agreed we are working at a one-term, one-shot deal, that we are trying to get to a long-term settlement. The DeCamp proposal puts into place a tax that will be like this forever, pegged at what is a not competitive amount of tax, in essence a 4.5 or 4 percent corporate tax rate as compared to every other corporation that has about a 6.3 effective tax rate. Secondly, it ignores the fact that we are about to go into a long-term study...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...and be changed. My final point here is this, when you put in a bank tax and you have losses you can take those losses forward, you can take those losses back. You have to run them against the tax that you had secured. If you put this tax on the books for one year, you have to keep records for the next ten years because there may be claims against this tax for up to ten years. If that is right, you have an administrative cost this year, next year, the year after, the year after, the year after, and the year after simply because we adopted this for one year. It is a different way of figuring taxes. You will have to keep a different administrative format for almost ten years in place to check against for further kinds of losses that will be used as check-offs or exemptions against the tax owed for this one year. It is a foolish way of administering tax policy.

PRESIDENT: Your time is expiring.

SENATOR LANDIS: For that reason, this proposal is inferior policy to 717.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Higgins, and then Senator Lamb and Hefner and DeCamp and Landis. Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to ask Senator Vard Johnson, the Revenue Committee Chairman, a question. Is he here?