

3-7
MAR 02 1998

RE Ruthowski bill

8505 W. Forest Home Avenue, Greenfield, WI 53228 Telephone: (414) 529-0500



FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 3/2/98 TIME: 1:05 PMPLEASE DELIVER TO: Rep. Carol Owens - Chairperson of HousingSENT FROM: Chris KrauszNUMBER OF PAGES (Including cover sheet) 13

PHONE #529-0500

FAX #529-9606

MEMO: Re: AB 620

Since our meeting 1/8/98, following is some of the information collected to be looked over. Sure hope it will help.

Also talked to acty. Peter F. Seracini's office about foreclosures etc that this firm has on television. But, I'm only a realtor so no info can be given out. They advised they can talk to you. If interested the phone # is 414-321-5500. Thank you.

Chris

FOR REALTORS, HOMEOWNERS & PROFESSIONALS

FEBRUARY 1998

Real Estate Trends

How The Year Is Shaping Up

Don't think that things could get any better than 1997? Think again. This year is really starting out with some great news (except if you live in Asia):

- ⇒ The unemployment rate averaged 4.9% in 1997. The job growth machine did not slow down in December—370,000 new jobs were created.
- ⇒ New home sales were at the highest level in 11 years for November. This was before rates went even lower. Resales were also poised to stay strong with the smallest inventory of unsold homes since 1971.
- ⇒ The year closed out with no price pressures. Wholesale prices fell 1.2% last year, the biggest decrease since 1986. The year ended with a significant .2% drop in December.
- ⇒ The Federal Government has declared that the budget may actually be balanced this year rather than five years from now.
- ⇒ The 30 year bond hit a record low in mid-January—5.69%. Mortgage rates are at a point seen only once in the past 25 years.
- ⇒ The Fed is now talking about deflation in response to the Asian crisis and admitting there is very little chance of interest rate increases despite a strong economy.
- ⇒ Consumer confidence finished the year at a 28-year high.

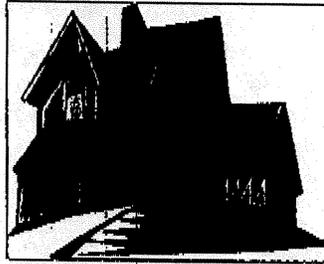
Only the stock market seems to be losing its luster in the early stages of 1998. No matter, because if stocks slump more money will go into bonds and interest rates could go lower! □

FHA Guidelines Change

Just a few days after the good news from FHA was released, FHA followed with bad news for consumers. On December 31, FHA confirmed that the base loan amount was increasing to \$86,317 and high cost areas will be increasing to \$170,362.

The first Mortgagee Letter of 1998 was released on January 2nd. This letter

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Mortgage Rates Spur Refis

The month of January of 1998 is going to be known as the start of a refinance boom. In mid-January 30-year rates dipped below 6.9%—a rate not seen since October 1993 and before then not seen

Refinance Craze...

for 25 years! In October of 1993, rates bottomed at 6.73%, but were up 1.0% within two months—ending a refinance craze.

Refinances were approaching 50% of total loan applications in January, affirming the trend. Normally, refinances average 25% or less of total mortgage applications.

Rates on short term adjustables did not drop as precipitously as fixed rates because the Fed has continued to threaten to raise short term rates. Even this trend ended in January as the Fed made several positive comments and the One-Year Treasury responded with an instant decrease of 0.5%.

Even so, the refinance market is lending toward fixed rates—which are currently accounting for almost 80% of total applications. No wonder, since most can get a fixed rate for under 7.0% with few points. Don't hesitate! □

included several rule changes, the most important of which affected FHA adjustable rate mortgages. Beginning with loan applications taken in March, FHA adjustables must be underwritten at the start rate plus 1%. Also, temporary buydowns are forbidden on ARMs and are limited to 2% below the note rate on fixed rate mortgages. □

Value Increases Uneven

Home values have been up throughout the United States during the past few years. Even so, the rates of increase have varied significantly from region to region.

The State of Utah has led the way with an increase of almost 75 percent for resales during the past 60 months. During the past 12 months, Michigan has been the hottest—up 7.2%, Oregon, Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Washington (State), Minnesota, Nebraska, Indiana and South Carolina were up over 5.0%. California came in just under 5.0% (4.7%)—a significant turnaround.

On the other end of the scale, Hawaii led the way with a 4.2% decrease last year. Alaska was down 1.9% and Wyoming increased only 0.7%.

The Northeast and the Mid-Atlantic States continued to lag in price appreciation with most states averaging a 2.0% to 3.0% gain. However, since 1980 these regions have had total gains which are above average... □

Did You Know.....

- The Internal Revenue Service is warning that deducting mortgage interest on loans which exceed the value of the home is prohibited. This is in response to the increasingly popular "125% loan-to-value" mortgage programs. This determination is not expected to decrease the popularity of the mortgages which are utilized to consolidate debts.
- A survey of ten stock analysts published by Investor's Business Daily predicts that the Dow Jones Average will go up in 1998 (7 out of ten). The final average predictions range from 5378 to 16220. The Dow finished the year near 8000.

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4F REAL ESTATE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1998 MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

Texas lenders see flood of applications

Bloomberg News

Dallas — Home-equity lenders in Texas say they have been deluged with loan applications since the state lifted a prohibition on second mortgages Jan. 1. Most, however, say it's too early to tell how big the market will be or whether the current flood of business will last. And many smaller institutions say the state's restrictions on the loans are so onerous that it isn't worth the risk of making them.

"Demand's been strong," said Ron Clamage, Texas regional vice president for Household Financial Corp., a unit of Chicago-based Household International. "I think it will continue at least for '98."

Lenders such as Household are stepping up operations to meet demand. Household received between 500 and 600 applications, for an estimated \$24

million in loans, at its eight Texas branches in one week, Clamage said.

Similarly, Beneficial Corp. of Wilmington, Del., brought in 50 employees from other states to handle the crush of loan applications, and has asked them to stay for another month.

"They've been very busy — more than our expectations at this point," said Beneficial spokesman Robert Wade.

Voters approved a constitutional amendment Nov. 4 allowing Texans to borrow against the equity in their homes. Texas had been the only state that didn't allow second mortgages.

Unlike many other states, Texas lawmakers imposed a series of restrictions on second mortgages. Home-equity loans can't exceed 80% of the property's value, and loan fees are capped at 3%.

Although the new law took ef-

fect Jan. 1, no loans were made until Jan. 14 because lenders are required to give borrowers a "cooling off" period between the loan application and the closing.

All the safeguards, however, have made Texas home-equity loans unattractive to many smaller lenders.

"There are a lot of community banks that have just determined they're not going to be doing home-equity loans," said Chris Williston, president of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas. "Those that are, are going to be very diligent and careful before funding takes place."

While larger finance companies are funding loans, Williston said many consumers are left wondering why their local banks aren't offering them.

No official loan data is expected until next year.

State officials estimate the

market for home-equity loans in Texas at as much as \$127 billion. Last year, the loan volume for the entire country was \$268 billion, according to the National Home Equity Mortgage Association.

Dallas-based FirstPlus Financial Group Inc. had amassed between \$45 million and \$50 million worth of loans before they began processing them Jan. 14, Chairman Daniel Phillips said.

Government is investigating questionable equity loan deals

By JOHN STAMPER
Knight-Ridder News Service

Washington — Geraldine Daniels, a 62-year-old school crossing guard, has refinanced the mortgage on her burgundy and cream split-level in northeast Washington five times since 1988.

When she started, Daniels was making payments of a few hundred dollars a month on a \$37,000 loan. After the fourth deal was cut in 1994, she owed \$112,000 and faced impossible monthly payments of \$1,225 — an amount about \$100 larger than her monthly income.

Along the way she paid \$39,960.31 in finance fees, credit insurance and settlement fees.

Daniels can't explain just how this financial disaster unfolded. Her husband died. She had four sons, one brain-damaged. The bill collectors were hammering on her door.

"All I wanted to do was get the loan and pay my bills," Daniels said. "I said, 'Give me the money.' I wasn't thinking about anything else."

What really happened, consumer advocates and regulators say, is that Daniels became a victim of a fast-growing trend — lending money at very high interest rates to people who can't qualify for normal credit.

The profits that can be extracted from borrowers such as Daniels are so large that lending to them more than justifies the financial risks involved. And, the customers — called "subprime borrowers" in the industry — are so unsophisticated that they make attractive targets for unscrupulous lenders.

The bad boys of the subprime business do something called "equity skimming" which basically means tricking low-income people with valuable homes — elderly black women are frequent victims — into accepting more credit than they can ever repay.

The end game: Grandmas across America are losing their homes.

"It is a major national problem," said Patricia Sturdevant, general counsel for the National Association of Consumer Advocates. "It leads to abuses of trust, poverty, foreclosure and homelessness."

Subprime loans represent only about 10% of America's \$1.2 trillion in consumer loans

Here's how you can protect yourself

Knight-Ridder News Service

Washington — Experts say you can avoid being ripped off by predatory lenders by following these tips:

- Never do business with a mortgage company that calls you. Reputable companies wait for you to come to them.

- Always read every word of every document you sign and always have someone else read it before you sign it.

- If you don't understand what you're being asked to sign,

take it home and show it to someone who is knowledgeable in financial matters.

- Go to established lenders and see if you can get a loan there before using a subprime lender.

- If your credit is poor, wait to try to improve it before borrowing.

- Use credit only when it is absolutely essential.

- Remember that federal law gives you three days to change your mind after signing a loan document.

but an array of large financial institutions has focused increasingly on the attractive market.

Alarmed at the growth, regulators at the Federal Trade Commission are investigating subprime lending practices and Justice Department investigators have reportedly launched a probe of at least one subprime lender.

Subprime lending provides those with blemished or even obliterated credit ratings a home-equity loan at an interest rate of 12% to 24%, instead of the 7% or 8% most Americans pay. The loan is frequently based on the value of a home, not on the borrower's ability to repay.

Some lenders tapping this market brag about bringing credit access to the poor. But critics say lending money at 20% interest to people who can barely live on their earnings is hardly generous.

Like Daniels, most people turn to subprime lenders in desperate times — when no one else is willing to pony up money needed to keep the roof overhead.

"I didn't know what to do, where to go or where to turn," said Daniels in a recent interview. "They were getting ready to foreclose. . . I was so upset,

because I knew I had done this to myself."

Daniels said trying to save her home brought major hardship.

"I couldn't buy anything. We could hardly eat at times," she recalled. "I have a son that's handicapped and I couldn't really buy him clothes like I should."

Consumer advocates and federal agencies are working to cut the odds so that lenders don't take advantage of frantic borrowers such as Daniels.

Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), chairman of the Senate's Special Committee on Aging, is planning hearings in mid-March to "expose these predatory lending practices that target the elderly community."

The FTC has filed suit against one Washington, D.C., company and is investigating others across the nation.

Federal officials who asked not to be identified said the Justice Department is looking into the activities of one of the largest home-equity lenders in the nation.

Justice spokesman Myron Marlin would not confirm such a probe but said the department had notified industry officials that they could investigate the "underwriting, pricing and marketing of loans."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1997

YOUR MORTGAGE

'High-LTV' Lending Is on the Rise

KENNETH R. HARNEY
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

WASHINGTON — When Joseph Yu and his wife, Nadia, took out a new loan on their townhouse earlier this year, they had no idea they were tapping into the hottest new trend in the American home mortgage market.

"All we wanted to do was get out from under our monthly credit card debts," Yu, a 29-year-old businessman from Germantown ID., said he and his wife had accumulated \$30,000 in credit card, auto loan and other debts over the past several years.

Their minimum monthly payments totaled about \$2,200. That was on top a \$900 monthly payment for mortgage principal, interest, property taxes and condo fees on the house.

The solution for the Yu family: To mortgage their town house for more than its market value, and use the bulk of the proceeds to pay off all their consumer debts.

After closing on their new loan, according to Yu, their total monthly payments dropped from \$3,100 to \$1,424—a 54% decrease. The \$2,200 credit card outlay was replaced by a \$524 monthly second-mortgage payment.

Joseph Yu's new mortgage financing package is part of the rapidly growing move to what's called "high-LTV" lending. LTV stands for loan-to-value ratio. If you own a house with an existing \$90,000 first mortgage and you take out a second mortgage for \$35,000, you've got an LTV of 125%.

Joseph Yu's \$115,000 town house now has a mortgage LTV of 114%; an existing \$91,000 first deed of trust and a new \$40,000 second deed of trust funded by American Lending Group Inc., a Gaithersburg, MD.-based mortgage banking company that specializes in high-LTV financing.

Volume Rises

Nationwide, according to Wall Street mortgage analysts, more than \$10 billion worth of 100% or higher LTV loans will be financed in 1997-up from just \$3 billion in 1996 and virtually nothing in 1995. Volume in 1998 is projected to top \$20 billion. The LTV's generally range from 100% to 135%.

"It's a type of financing that sounds bizarre when you first hear 'the term,' said Gordon Monsen, a managing director at PaineWebber, the Wall Street securities firm. "It goes against the very core principle of traditional mortgage underwriting, which is that the borrower should have at least some equity in the property-like a down payment."

But Monsen says home loan-to-value ratios of 100% to 135% "are prudent for lenders and investors"-provided the borrowers have good to excellent credit profiles.

Monsen's firm, along with other Wall Street giants, pools high-LTV loans from across the country into mortgage bonds and sells them to institutional investors. The credit requirements for borrowers to qualify usually are stringent-higher, for instance, that the minimum standards set by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac for the mortgages they purchase.

Whereas both Fannie and Freddie insist on credit scores of 620 or higher, typical high-LTV borrowers have scores of 650 to 700 or higher, measured by the popular FICO electronic credit-scoring system developed by Fair, Isaac & Co. and used by lenders nationwide.

Like Joseph and Nadia Yu, most high-LTV borrowers have good incomes, solid jobs and good debt repayment histories. They also have a weakness for credit cards and are stretched to the limit after month. Through a second mortgage industry exists to help debt-burdened consumers with "consolidation" loans, until recently most lenders wouldn't even consider extending credit where the combined debt loan of the existing first mortgage and a new, second exceeded 90% or 95% of home value.

Is high-LTV borrowing for you? Here are some thoughts: A 125% LTV loan isn't for you if you've run up big credit card balances and have been seriously late on repayments. Delinquencies can knock your credit score below the minimums for high LTV.

High-LTV second mortgages aren't cheap, either. Typical rates run from about 13%-for the best credit-to 16%. But they're almost always lower than the 18% to 22% charged by credit card issuers.

Plan Carefully

Don't plan on moving real soon if you take out a high-LTV mortgage. If you have combined first and second liens of, say, \$200,000 on your \$175,000 house, you're going to need to bring money to settlement-not collect it-when you sell. To help on that score, a few lenders are now offering "portable" seconds that you can transfer to a new home, rather that pay off.

A caution: You can't write off home mortgage interest on debt that's above the market value of your home. Many high-LTV borrowers appear to be winking at that, rule, exposing themselves to possible penalties in the event of an IRS audit.

Distributed by the Washington Post Writers Group.

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MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 1998 19A

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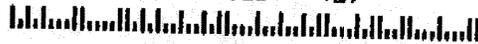
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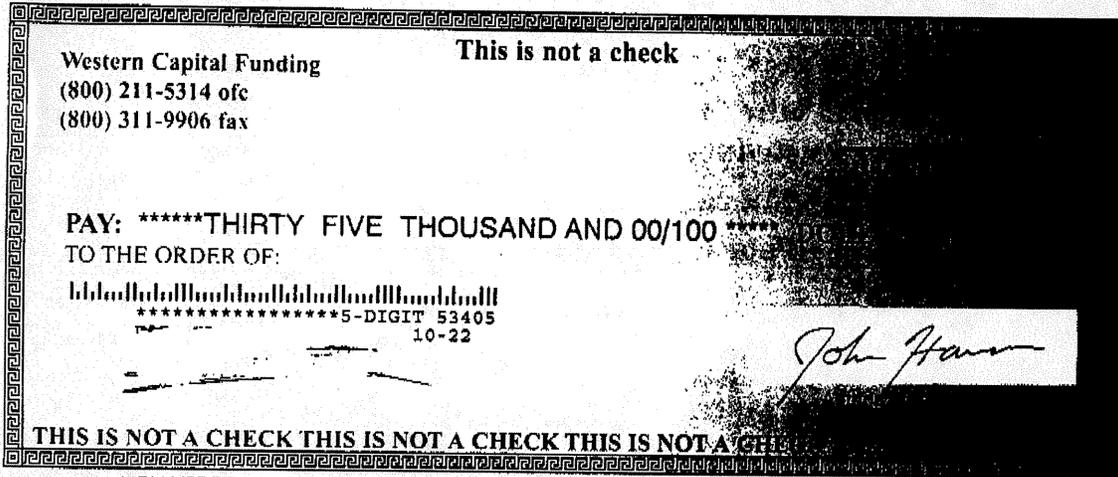
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order of

Award #: 53405-1531021-549-ZF
AUTOCR***C-073

**NON-NEGOTIABLE
COUPON**
Actual Amount
May Be More or Less



⑆ 1 2 2 0 2 4 7 ⑆ 0 7 3 7 9 3 0 8 ⑈

NON-NEGOTIABLE

NON-TRANSFERABLE

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	COUPON NO.
12/22/97		\$49,680.00*	216919

**Apply Now, Give Us Your Award Number and After Loan Closing
We'll Give You a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond***

Dear Michael,

We are pleased to inform you that your home at 2302 Rivershore Dr may allow you to receive in cash, a loan for up to 125% of the value of your home.* As a government approved lender, United Lending Group is able to offer you loan programs with great benefits, including:

- Pay Off Bills
- No Appraisal Needed
- Funded Directly to You
- Tax Advantages*
- Home Improvements
- No Equity Needed
- 24-Hour Approval
- 7-10 Day Fundings

Here's an example of how we may be able to help:

Current Monthly Payments:

Credit Cards \$400
 Car Loan \$350
 Retail Stores \$150

...with **UNITED LENDING GROUP**

**Significantly Reduce Your
Monthly Payments**
by as much as

TOTAL \$900

1/2 (plus tax advantages)*

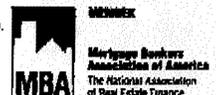
United Lending Group is an established national mortgage lender who has helped thousands of people across America obtain cash to fulfill their financial needs. Our friendly and knowledgeable loan officers are ready to assist you by phone, quickly and conveniently. **Call today.**

1-800-600-1166



69244

*Loan minimum \$10,000. Loan maximum for 125% product is \$75,000; other loan programs up to \$300,000. Consult your tax advisor for applicable tax advantages. United Lending Group is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ContiFinancial Corporation (NYSE listed:CFN). Savings Bond Offer not valid with any other offer. Loan must close and fund through United Lending Group on or before 3/31/98. United Lending Group is not affiliated in any way with the United States Government



Lower Your Monthly Payments!

Consolidate Your Bills and Pay off Debts

With one phone call and a few minutes of your time, our experienced loan consultants may help you reduce your monthly payments by hundreds of dollars or more.

Consider the Benefits of a Home Equity Loan through United Lending Group:

- No Equity Needed*
- Fast Approvals
- Apply by Phone
- No Appraisal Needed*
- Fast Fundings
- Tax Advantages*

No Equity Loans up to \$100,000*
Loans up to 125% of the value of your home*

Call Today, Toll Free **1-888-562-6505**



*Available with some programs. Loan amount: minimum \$10,000-maximum \$500,000. Maximum percentage of home value available for loan based on credit history. Consult your tax advisor for availability of applicable tax advantages. United Lending Group is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ContiFinancial Corporation (NYSE listed: CFN). AZ State Banking License #BK18130. CA Dept. of Real Estate Broker #01076938. Illinois Residential Mortgage Licensee. Illinois Office: 2-Mid-America Plaza, Suite 800, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Licensed Mortgage Banker-New Jersey Department of Banking.

Tear off, fold and seal to return this postage paid response by mail.

Could your family use
\$25,000 or more?
for only **\$275.00** per month
.....
(Please see example on reverse side.)

Apply now and at loan closing

Receive a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond

Apply now, give us your award number and at loan closing we'll give you a free \$50 U.S. Savings Bond.

(Award number is shown in address window on reverse side.)

*Savings Bond offer not valid with any other offer. Loan must close and fund through United Lending Group on or before 2/28/98. United Lending Group is not affiliated with the United States Government.

YES! Call me, I'd like to learn how United Lending Group could save me money.

Borrower Name _____		Co-Borrower Name _____		Today's Date _____
Street Address _____		City _____	State _____	Zip _____
() _____		() _____		
Home Phone _____	Work Phone _____	Best Time to Call _____		
Year of Home Purchase _____	\$ _____ Current Home Value	\$ _____ 1st Mortgage Existing Balance	\$ _____ 2nd Mortgage Existing Balance	
Purpose of Loan:	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Consolidation	<input type="checkbox"/> Lower Monthly Payments	<input type="checkbox"/> Home Improvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Cash

Call Now **1-888-562-6505**

or fax this form to 1-888-562-6620

Vote Record

Assembly Committee on Housing

Date: 2/4/98
 Moved by: Foti Seconded by: Morris-Tatum
 AB: 620 Clearinghouse Rule: _____
 AB: _____ SB: _____ Appointment: _____
 AJR: _____ SJR: _____ Other: _____
 A: _____ SR: _____

A/S Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Amdt: _____
 A/S Sub Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Sub Amdt: _____
 A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Amdt: _____ to A/S Sub Amdt: _____

Be recommended for:

- Passage
- Introduction
- Adoption
- Rejection

- Indefinite Postponement
- Tabling
- Concurrence
- Nonconcurrence
- Confirmation

Committee Member

Rep. Carol Owens, Chair
 Rep. Neal Kedzie
 Rep. Steven Foti
 Rep. Daniel Vrakas
 Rep. Steve Wieckert
 Rep. Johnnie Morris-Tatum
 Rep. John La Fave
 Rep. Leon Young
 Rep. Tammy Baldwin

<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Totals: 9 0 0 0

2/4

Foti will check with Bock about taking over as lead author when this gets scheduled for March floor action.

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

Zibrowski, Jacque

From: Matthias, Mary
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 1998 1:09 PM
To: Zibrowski, Jacque
Subject: FW: AB 620

Jacque-I thought you might like to see this.

Mary Matthias
Senior Staff Attorney
Wisconsin Legislative Council Staff
Ph.608-266-0932
Fax:608-266-3830
e-mail:mary.matthias@legis.state.wi.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Jenny Boese ([SMTP:jboese@wisbar.org](mailto:jboese@wisbar.org))
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 1998 3:11 PM
To: Matthias, Mary
Subject: AB 620

Mary,

Matt Bromley forwarded your e-mail to me as I deal primarily with bankruptcy/insolvency type legislation for the State Bar.

First off, we do not have a legislative position on this bill so anything contained in this e-mail is not a formal position by the State Bar or any of its Sections. It is simply an attempt to provide you with information as requested.

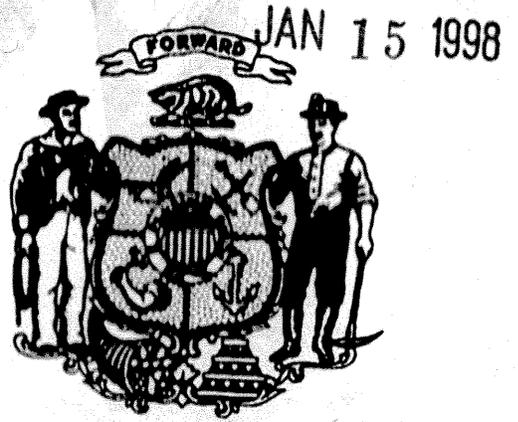
Regarding AB 620:

I have not received a great deal of comment from attorneys regarding this legislation, and I do not have a specific answer to Rep. Wieckert's question. But I will try to solicit additional comments from attorneys on this bill.

Comments I received indicate concern over AB 620 for the following reasons: 1) it is an unnecessary change; 2) the "adverse change in financial condition" is too vague and will require some type of interpretation from the courts; 3) the bill also doesn't address instances when the "financial condition" of the mortgager subsequently improves; 4) accordingly, who makes this type of interpretation and to what standard?

I will try to get back to you as soon as possible with comments. If you need anything in the interim, please contact me at 250-6045 or jboese@wisbar.org. Thanks for seeking our input on this bill.

Jenny Boese
State Bar of Wisconsin



We thought you might be interested in the attached material.

Jacque -

Here are the materials on AB 670 I received from Rukowski's office. I also have calls in to or have talked to:

DOJ, DFI, Mortgage Bankers Assn & mortgage Brokers Assn. →

**Wisconsin Legislative Council
One East Main Street Suite 401
P.O. Box 2536
Madison, WI 53701-2536
(608) 266-1304
Fax No. (608) 266-3830**

I'll call when I
get any useful
info.

Thanks

Mary

P.S. Please let me know
if you have a date in
mind for the next
Exec.

Thanks

Residence:
4550 S. 117th Street
Greenfield, WI 53228-2451
(414) 425-4227

Madison Office:
Room 216 North, State Capitol
Post Office Box 8953
Madison, Wisconsin 53708
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82nd Assembly District
Cities of Greenfield,
Franklin and Milwaukee
Village of Greendale and
Town of Raymond

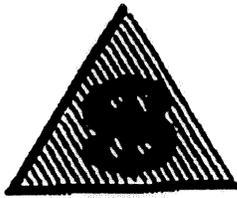
Legislative Hotline:
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FAX: (608) 266-7038

JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

Memorandum

To: Mary Matthias, Legislative Council
From: John Wagnitz, 82nd Assembly district
Date: January 15, 1998
Re: AB 620, relating to prohibiting the use of the real estate foreclosure process
for certain types of defaults.

Per your request, I have enclosed copies of correspondence relating to the practice by some consumer loan companies to write home mortgages into contracts as collateral on consumer loans. If you have further questions or need additional information, please contact me. You can also reach Rex Loehle, at 266-1707 or Commissioner Jim Rutkowski at 266-7599.



Mortgage Money Specialists, Inc.

131 W. Layton Ave.
Norwest Bank Center 1 • Suite 208
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Telephone (414) 488-1280
Fax (414) 488-1252

January 6, 1997

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is regarding Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Morrison .

On Thursday January 3, 1997, I met Mr. and Mrs. Morrison at TCF Financial for a noon appointment with the manager, Mr. Nick Meindl. Unfortunately, the manager forgot to mark the meeting time on his calendar. We rescheduled the appointment with the manager for 9:00AM, Friday, January 4, 1997.

The purpose of this meeting was to reestablish a meaningful relationship with all the parties and access the current financial arrangement. The Morrisons' were looking for a release of their Washington St. property and have the net proceeds applied to their account. The property was sold for \$16K. Comparable sales were presented with a value range of \$ 9.5 K to \$ 14.5 K. The sale would result in a net \$11.3K reduction in their account balance. The current estimated fair market value of their home is \$176.9K. With a loan balance of \$153K, a reduction of \$ 11.3K would create a new balance of \$141.7K, or, approximately 80% of the value of their homestead property.

In addition, the Morrisons' were going to make a cash payment of \$ 1,300.00!

They also promised to make all future payments timely!

After the Friday AM meeting, the Morrisons' were promised by TCF Financial to have a response by noon. I spoke with Mr. Morrison at 4:30PM on Friday and no one had gotten back to them.

The Morrisons' previously stated that TCF Financial was unapproachable and uncooperative... I guess they were right!!!!

Sincerely yours,

Michael Thomas

President

Mortgage Money Specialists

ADDITIONAL TERMS OF YOUR LOAN

OWNERSHIP OF THE COLLATERAL: You promise that you have full ownership of all the collateral. You promise that no one else has an interest in the collateral. You agree not to sell any of the collateral or give anybody else an interest in it without written permission from us. You will keep the collateral free from others' claims (such as taxes and liens).

CARE OF THE COLLATERAL: You will:

- 1. Keep all the collateral in good repair and working order;
2. Replace broken and worn parts;
3. Allow us to inspect the collateral as we wish; and
4. Notify us in writing immediately of any loss or damage to the collateral.

OTHER PROMISES: You will:

- 1. Provide us with financing statements at our request;
2. Assist us and do whatever is necessary to perfect any security interest or mortgage in the collateral or other property securing this loan;
3. Make sure our security interest is properly shown on the certificate of title, if the collateral includes a motor vehicle or other certificated property;
4. Notify us immediately if you change your address; and
5. Not use the collateral for any unlawful purposes.

Handwritten initials 'CK' in the left margin.

CHANGES, WAIVER & DELAY IN ENFORCEMENT: This agreement cannot be changed unless we agree in writing. We may give up (or "waive") or delay enforcement of our rights under this agreement without losing them. For example, we may accept late payments from you without waiving our right to require that future payments be made on time. If we release any of you from this agreement, the rest of you will not be released. If we exchange or release any collateral or other property that secures this loan, you will not be released. We do not have to use our legal remedies against one of you before we use our legal remedies against the rest of you. You agree to any renewal of this agreement and any extensions we give to any of you.

INSURANCE: You will keep the collateral or other property securing this loan insured against:

- 1. Fire (including extended coverage);
2. Theft and collision (for motor vehicles); and
3. Any other risks we name.

You may buy the insurance from anyone you want, but the insurance company and the amount of the insurance must be acceptable to us. You will have the insurance company name us in the policy as a secured party, and you will give us a copy of the policy. You will instruct each issuer of an insurance policy to pay any claims directly to us and to notify us in writing at least 10 days before ending coverage.

You assign any insurance payments to us as additional security. This paragraph applies only if the original principal amount of your obligations to us, described on the preceding pages of this form, is \$800.00 or more and the value of the collateral or other property securing this loan is \$800.00 or more.

APPLICATION OF PAYMENTS: Any payment you make will first be applied to any accrued finance charges, then to principal, then to any other charges you owe us.

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: You will not keep the collateral in any county or state that requires you to file a financing statement to protect our security interest unless you have filed a financing statement there showing us as the secured party. You will not remove the collateral from the state where you currently live without our written permission.

OUR RIGHT TO TAKE ACTION: If you do not:

- 1. Take care of the collateral;
2. Keep the collateral insured as we ask;
3. Make sure that necessary financing statements are filed; or
4. Fulfill any other promise you have made in this agreement; then we may (if we choose) take the necessary steps to protect our interest in the collateral. For example, we may pay taxes, insure the collateral, file financing statements, or make repairs. If we advance any money, you agree to pay us back with interest at the rate you pay on this loan, but not more than the maximum rate allowed by law.

SPECIAL RULES FOR SECURITIES: If any of the collateral consists of stock, bonds or other types of securities:

- 1. You will endorse those securities at our request so that we can transfer them. If we ask you to, you will also deliver to us anything that you receive from the issuer of those securities. For example, you will deliver any money, notices or additional securities that you receive from the issuer because you own the securities. Whatever you deliver to us will be subject to this agreement; and
2. We may notify the issuers of those securities of our security interest. We may require the issuers to make any payments to us directly, and we may sue the issuers if they do not pay as required.

DEFAULT AND FULL PAYMENT: If the principal of your loan is \$25,000 or less and your loan is secured by other than a first mortgage, or it is unsecured, you agree that you will be in default if any of the following events occur: (1)(a) if the interval between scheduled payments is two months or less: you have outstanding an amount exceeding one full payment which has remained unpaid for more than ten days after the scheduled or deferred due date, or you fail to pay the first payment or the last payment within forty days of its scheduled or deferred due date; (b) if the interval between scheduled payments is more than two months: you have all or any part of one scheduled payment unpaid for more than sixty days after its scheduled or deferred due date; (c) if this loan is scheduled to be repaid in a single payment: you have all or any part of the payment unpaid for more than forty days after its scheduled or deferred due date, or (d) if this loan is for an agricultural purpose: you fail to pay the first or the only payment when due or to pay any other payment within forty days of its original or deferred due date. For purposes of this paragraph, the amount outstanding shall not include any delinquency or default charges and shall be computed by applying each payment first to the installment most delinquent and then to subsequent installments in the order they come due. (2) You fail to observe any other provision or covenant of the agreement, the breach of which materially impairs the condition, value or protection of or our right in any collaterals securing the agreement, or materially impairs your ability to pay amounts due under this agreement. If you are in default, we may (1) declare your entire unpaid balance due and payable, following notice of your right to cure any default and an opportunity to cure, if required by Wisconsin statute section 428.108; and (2) exercise any rights provided by this agreement, any security agreement provided in connection with this agreement, or applicable law.

Handwritten initials 'CK' in the left margin.

If the principal of your loan is more than \$25,000 or is secured by a first mortgage, you agree that you will be in default if any of the following events occur: (1) you fail to make a payment when due or fail to comply with any other terms of this agreement, (2) you fail to pay any other amount you owe us when due, (3) you die or any guarantor of your agreement dies, (4) you do not pay your debts when due, (5) you give us false or misleading information or statements in connection with this extension of credit to you, (6) you file a petition under the United States Bankruptcy Code, or someone files a petition against you, (7) you default under the terms of any security agreement you have given us, (8) someone tries to take any property or collateral that secures this agreement by legal proceeding, or (9) we determine that there has been significant adverse change in your financial condition or the value of any property or collateral you have given us for security has gone down substantially. If there is a default, we may demand immediate payment of, and you agree to pay, the entire amount you owe us under this agreement. If we do demand immediate payment in full, the finance charge will be figured by using the Annual Percentage Rate that is in effect on the day we demand immediate repayment. If there is a default we may also exercise our rights under any separate security agreement that secures this agreement.

COLLECTION FEES: If the note is governed by the Wisconsin Consumer Act, you agree to pay "statutory costs" and "statutory attorneys fees" Otherwise, you agree to pay reasonable attorney fees and costs we incur to collect or foreclose this loan, to the extent permitted by law.

AGREEMENT BINDING: You understand that this agreement is binding on your heirs and your legal representatives.

MORE THAN ONE SIGNER: Whether you sign this agreement as an individual or as one of a group, you are each fully responsible for all of the obligations owed to us.



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

One East Main Street, Suite 401; P.O. Box 2536; Madison, WI 53701-2536
Telephone (608) 266-1304
Fax (608) 266-3830

DATE: February 25, 1997
TO: REPRESENTATIVE JAMES RUTKOWSKI
FROM: Ronald Sklansky, Senior Staff Attorney
SUBJECT: Mortgage Regulation

This memorandum, prepared at your request, responds to a concern you have raised regarding mortgage regulation. Specifically, you have been alerted by a constituent to conditions requiring a default in a mortgage and you have asked whether the Legislature can react to this situation.

You have forwarded a portion of a contract containing language that has led to your concern. The contract between the lender and the borrower states in part that:

If the principal of your loan is more than \$25,000 or is secured by a first mortgage, you agree that you will be in default if any of the following events occur . . .

(3) you die or any guarantor of your agreement dies . . .

(6) you file a petition under the United States Bankruptcy Code, or someone files a petition against you . . . or

(9) we determine that there has been significant adverse change in your financial condition where the value of any property or collateral you have given us for security has gone down substantially. If there is a default, we may demand immediate payment of, and you agree to pay, the entire amount you owe us under this agreement

It appears that the Legislature may react to the conditions contained in notes or contracts accompanying mortgages in at least two ways. First, the Legislature could enact a law prohibiting, and making void, specified onerous conditions in the contractual relationship between a mortgagor and mortgagee. Whether such a law could apply to out-of-state lenders through an extension of Wisconsin's long-arm jurisdiction is speculative and may depend on the facts of a

given situation. Also, whether such a law could apply to nationally chartered financial institutions would involve an investigation of federal law to determine whether federal preemption might be an issue. For example, see *Wisconsin League of Financial Institutions v. Galecki*, 707 F. Supp. 401 (W.D. Wis. 1989).

Second, even if Wisconsin law may not extend to particular lenders, a law could be enacted that applies to property located in Wisconsin. That is, ch. 846, Stats., relating to real estate foreclosure, could be amended to prohibit the judicial process of foreclosure on real estate located in Wisconsin when the alleged default is based on specified onerous conditions contained in the contractual relationship, or note, accompanying a mortgage. Again, the state may not be able to regulate certain lenders, but it can regulate the disposition of real estate in Wisconsin, at least with respect to contracts entered into in the future.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please feel free to contact me.

RS:wu;ksm

Residence:
4550 S. 117th Street
Greenfield, WI 53228-2451
(414) 425-4227

Madison Office:
Room 216 North, State Capitol
Post Office Box 8953
Madison, Wisconsin 53708
(608) 266-8590



82nd Assembly District
Cities of Greenfield,
Franklin and Milwaukee
Village of Greendale and
Town of Raymond

Legislative Hotline:
(Toll-free) 1-800-362-9472 (WISC)
FAX: (608) 266-7038

JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

Facsimile Cover Sheet
Fax Number: (608)266-7038

To: Paul Egide, Financial Institutions Division

Fax #: 264-7968

From: Rex Loche, Representative Jim Rutkowski's office

Number of pages attached, including cover page 3

If pages are not all received or illegible, please call: (608)266-8590

Comments: This is regarding a matter recently brought to my attention by one our constituents. The issue relates to the practice by some consumer loan companies to write home mortgages into contracts as collateral on consumer loans. Depending on the way the mortgage clause is written into the contract, individuals may find that their property is in default based upon circumstances beyond their control. Examples of property foreclosures resulting from such outrageous contractual clauses include the death of a spouse or a reduction in the value of collateral property several years following the signing of the contract (perhaps due to increased instances of crime in the neighborhood). I have attached for your perusal a copy of one of these contracts as well as a letter addressed to one of these consumer loan companies by a mortgage holding company that is trying to mitigate the foreclosure on a property as result of one of these contracts. The constituent who sent me these materials is a Realtor, and she believes that the elderly and poor are being targeted by these companies since these individuals often can not obtain credit and are less likely to have access to legal representation when signing a loan contract.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important matter. If you have any additional questions or need additional information, please let me know.

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JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

Facsimile Cover Sheet
Fax Number: (608)266-7038

To: Fran Tryon, Bureau of Consumer Protection (re: conversation with Gracie)

Fax #: 224-4939

From: Rex Loeh, Representative Jim Rutkowski's office

Number of pages attached, including cover page 3

If pages are not all received or illegible, please call: (608)266-8590

Comments: This is regarding a matter recently brought to my attention by one of our constituents. The issue relates to the practice by some consumer loan companies to write home mortgages into contracts as collateral on consumer loans. Depending on the way the mortgage clause is written into the contract, individuals may find that their property is in default based upon circumstances beyond their control. Examples of property foreclosures resulting from such outrageous contractual clauses include the death of a spouse or a reduction in the value of collateral property several years following the signing of the contract (perhaps due to increased instances of crime in the neighborhood). I have attached for your perusal a copy of one of these contracts as well as a letter addressed to one of these consumer loan companies by a mortgage holding company that is trying to mitigate the foreclosure on a property as result of one of these contracts. The constituent who sent me these materials is a Realtor, and she believes that the elderly and poor are being targeted by these companies since these individuals often can not obtain credit and are less likely to have access to legal representation when signing a loan contract.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important matter. If you have any additional questions or need additional information, please let me know.

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(414) 425-4227

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Village of Greendale and
Town of Raymond

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FAX: (608) 266-7038

JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

Facsimile Cover Sheet
Fax Number: (608)266-7038

To: Lisa Nettekoven, Financial Institutions Division

Fax #: 267-6889

From: Rex Loehe, Representative Jim Rutkowski's office

Number of pages attached, including cover page 5

If pages are not all received or illegible, please call: (608)266-8590

Comments: This is regarding a matter recently brought to my attention by one our constituents (Chris Kraczek). The issue relates to the practice by some consumer loan companies to write home mortgages into contracts as collateral on consumer loans. Depending on the way the mortgage clause is written into the contract, individuals may find that their property is in default based upon circumstances beyond their control. Examples of property foreclosures resulting from such outrageous contractual clauses include the death of a spouse or a reduction in the value of collateral property several years following the signing of the contract (perhaps due to increased instances of crime in the neighborhood). I have attached for your perusal a copy of one of these contracts as well as a letter addressed to one of these consumer loan companies by a mortgage holding company that is trying to mitigate the foreclosure on a property as result of one of these contracts. The constituent who sent me these materials is a Realtor, and she believes that the elderly and poor are being targeted by these companies since these individuals often can not obtain credit and are less likely to have access to legal representation when signing a loan contract.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important matter. If you have any additional questions or need additional information, please let me know.

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(414) 425-4227

Madison Office:
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Madison, Wisconsin 53708
(608) 266-8590



82nd Assembly District
Cities of Greenfield,
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Village of Greendale and
Town of Raymond

Legislative Hotline:
(Toll-free) 1-800-362-9472 (WISC)
FAX: (608) 266-7038

JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

March 4, 1997

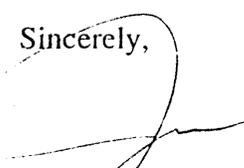
Chris Kraczek
7271 Hyacinth Court
Greendale, WI 53129

Dear Chris:

I was able to reach a Lisa Nettekoven at the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions regarding the practice by some consumer loan companies to include home mortgages as collateral on consumer loans. I faxed Lisa a copy of the materials that you sent me and she will review the Department's files to determine the extent of this problem in Wisconsin. I have also enclosed for your perusal, a copy of the brief on mortgage regulation prepared by Legislative Council Senior Staff Attorney, Ron Sklansky. This is the same document I recently discussed with you over the phone.

Again, thank you for bringing this matter to my attention. If you have any additional information that may be beneficial, please feel free to contact me through the toll-free Legislative Hotline at 1-800-362-9472 (WISC) or through my Madison office at (608)266-8590 and I will call you back to save you the long distance charges. You can also reach me at home in Greenfield at (414)425-4227.

Sincerely,


JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

P.S. Best wishes! Keep on track!

JAR:rl
Enclosure



State of Wisconsin
Department of Financial Institutions

Tommy G. Thompson, **Governor**

Richard L. Dean, **Secretary**

March 7, 1997

Representative James Rutkowski
State Capitol, Room 216 North
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Rutkowski:

We received information from Rex Loehe regarding the language of some mortgage notes used by loan companies. Your constituent, Chris Kraczek, had brought this matter to your attention.

At issue is the default language in the note. You had discussed this matter with Paul Egide of our Department on February 7, 1997. As Paul indicated to you at that time, the language in the default provision of the mortgage note we received is not illegal.

To determine if this matter has been brought to our attention in the past, we searched our records for other similar complaints or inquiries. We found no other complaints or inquiries regarding the default language of mortgage notes.

We regret we can not be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Nettekoven".

Lisa Nettekoven
Senior Examiner

AB 620

→ Ant-d-credit lenders are ripping off WI consumers
↳ see Leg. Council memo.

→ Several ways that consumers can end up in default!

(2nd pg., last para.) → bill will stop the enforcement
↳ might be in contract, but not enforceable!

↳ mo. Period of time over 200 / Milw & Wash. counties
↳ Baldwin
↳ Sec. 2 14-16 → add more

NOTE

....., 19..... [City] [State]
.....
[Property Address]

1. BORROWER'S PROMISE TO PAY

In return for a loan that I have received, I promise to pay U.S. \$..... (this amount is called "principal"), plus interest, to the order of the Lender. The Lender is I understand that the Lender may transfer this Note. The Lender or anyone who takes this Note by transfer and who is entitled to receive payments under this Note is called the "Note Holder."

2. INTEREST

Interest will be charged on unpaid principal until the full amount of principal has been paid. I will pay interest at a yearly rate of%.

The interest rate required by this Section 2 is the rate I will pay both before and after any default described in Section 6(B) of this Note.

3. PAYMENTS

(A) Time and Place of Payments

I will pay principal and interest by making payments every month.

I will make my monthly payments on the day of each month beginning on 19..... I will make these payments every month until I have paid all of the principal and interest and any other charges described below that I may owe under this Note. My monthly payments will be applied to interest before principal. If, on I still owe amounts under this Note, I will pay those amounts in full on that date, which is called the "maturity date."

I will make my monthly payments at or at a different place if required by the Note Holder.

(B) Amount of Monthly Payments

My monthly payment will be in the amount of U.S. \$.....

4. BORROWER'S RIGHT TO PREPAY

I have the right to make payments of principal at any time before they are due. A payment of principal only is known as a "prepayment." When I make a prepayment, I will tell the Note Holder in writing that I am doing so.

I may make a full prepayment or partial prepayments without paying any prepayment charge. The Note Holder will use all of my prepayments to reduce the amount of principal that I owe under this Note. If I make a partial prepayment, there will be no changes in the due date or in the amount of my monthly payment unless the Note Holder agrees in writing to those changes.

5. LOAN CHARGES

If a law, which applies to this loan and which sets maximum loan charges, is finally interpreted so that the interest or other loan charges collected or to be collected in connection with this loan exceed the permitted limits, then: (i) any such loan charge shall be reduced by the amount necessary to reduce the charge to the permitted limit; and (ii) any sums already collected from me which exceeded permitted limits will be refunded to me. The Note Holder may choose to make this refund by reducing the principal I owe under this Note or by making a direct payment to me. If a refund reduces principal, the reduction will be treated as a partial prepayment.

6. BORROWER'S FAILURE TO PAY AS REQUIRED

(A) Late Charge for Overdue Payments

If the Note Holder has not received the full amount of any monthly payment by the end of calendar days after the date it is due, I will pay a late charge to the Note Holder. The amount of the charge will be% of my overdue payment of principal and interest. I will pay this late charge promptly but only once on each late payment.

(B) Default

If I do not pay the full amount of each monthly payment on the date it is due, I will be in default.

(C) Notice of Default

If I am in default, the Note Holder may send me a written notice telling me that if I do not pay the overdue amount by a certain date, the Note Holder may require me to pay immediately the full amount of principal which has not been paid and all the interest that I owe on that amount. That date must be at least 30 days after the date on which the notice is delivered or mailed to me.

(D) No Waiver By Note Holder

Even if, at a time when I am in default, the Note Holder does not require me to pay immediately in full as described above, the Note Holder will still have the right to do so if I am in default at a later time.

(E) Payment of Note Holder's Costs and Expenses

If the Note Holder has required me to pay immediately in full as described above, the Note Holder will have the right to be paid back by me for all of its costs and expenses in enforcing this Note to the extent not prohibited by applicable law. Those expenses include, for example, reasonable attorneys' fees.

7. GIVING OF NOTICES

Unless applicable law requires a different method, any notice that must be given to me under this Note will be given by delivering it or by mailing it by first class mail to me at the Property Address above or at a different address if I give the Note Holder a notice of my different address.

Any notice that must be given to the Note Holder under this Note will be given by mailing it by first class mail to the Note Holder at the address stated in Section 3(A) above or at a different address if I am given a notice of that different address.

8. OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS UNDER THIS NOTE

If more than one person signs this Note, each person is fully and personally obligated to keep all of the promises made in this Note, including the promise to pay the full amount owed. Any person who is a guarantor, surety or endorser of this Note is also obligated to do these things. Any person who takes over these obligations, including the obligations of a guarantor, surety or endorser of this Note, is also obligated to keep all of the promises made in this Note. The Note Holder may enforce its rights under this Note against each person individually or against all of us together. This means that any one of us may be required to pay all of the amounts owed under this Note.

9. WAIVERS

I and any other person who has obligations under this Note waive the rights of presentment and notice of dishonor. "Presentment" means the right to require the Note Holder to demand payment of amounts due. "Notice of dishonor" means the right to require the Note Holder to give notice to other persons that amounts due have not been paid.

10. UNIFORM SECURED NOTE

This Note is a uniform instrument with limited variations in some jurisdictions. In addition to the protections given to the Note Holder under this Note, a Mortgage, Deed of Trust or Security Deed (the "Security Instrument"), dated the same date as this Note, protects the Note Holder from possible losses which might result if I do not keep the promises which I make in this Note. That Security Instrument describes how and under what conditions I may be required to make immediate payment in full of all amounts I owe under this Note. Some of those conditions are described as follows:

Transfer of the Property or a Beneficial Interest in Borrower. If all or any part of the Property or any interest in it is sold or transferred (or if a beneficial interest in Borrower is sold or transferred and Borrower is not a natural person) without Lender's prior written consent, Lender may, at its option, require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Security Instrument. However, this option shall not be exercised by Lender if exercise is prohibited by federal law as of the date of this Security Instrument.

If Lender exercises this option, Lender shall give Borrower notice of acceleration. The notice shall provide a period of not less than 30 days from the date the notice is delivered or mailed within which Borrower must pay all sums secured by this Security Instrument. If Borrower fails to pay these sums prior to the expiration of this period, Lender may invoke any remedies permitted by this Security Instrument without further notice or demand on Borrower.

WITNESS THE HAND(S) AND SEAL(S) OF THE UNDERSIGNED.

.....(Seal)
-Borrower

.....(Seal)
-Borrower

.....(Seal)
-Borrower

[Sign Original Only]



CAROL OWENS

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JACQUE

This came in
on Tuesday, Ms. Kracek
said she is going to testify
on Thursday unless the
weather is bad. She wanted
the Committee Chair to
have this info. in case
she could not make it

Office:
Room 105 West, State Capitol
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12/30/1997 14:38 4145293580

CHRIS K

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8505 W. Forest Home Avenue, Greenfield, WI 53228 Telephone: (414) 529-0500



FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 12/30/97 TIME: 2:35 PM
PLEASE DELIVER TO: Rep. Carol Owens
SENT FROM: Chris Kraeger
NUMBER OF PAGES (Including cover sheet) 6
PHONE #529-0500 FAX #529-9606
MEMO: Re Assembly bill 620

REPRESENTATIVE CAROL OWENS
CHAIRPERSON OF HOUSING
P. O. BOX 8953
MADISON, WI 53708

IN REGARDS TO ASSEMBLY BILL 620 OUT OF STATE LENDERS
PROCEDURES ON FORECLOSURES. PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTERS.
IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF THE ASSEMBLY COULD
PASS THIS BILL. MANY PEOPLE THINK THIS ADVERTISING ON
TELEVISION IS LEGIMINATE AND ARE BEING TAKEN IN UNDER FALSE
CIRCUMSTANCES. CONSUMERS USING THESE AGENCIES ARE USUALLY
AT A FINANCIAL DISADVANTAGE IN THE FIRST PLACE, AND
THESE PROVISIONS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THEIR SITUATION.
THESE PEOPLE USUALLY FEEL THEY HAVE NO OTHER OPTIONS.
PASSING OF THIS BILL WOULD GREATLY HELP YOUR CONSTITUANTS.

CHRIS KRACZEK
7271 HYACINTH COURT
GREENDALE, WI 53129
HOME PH: (414) 529-2576
OFFICE PH: (414) 529-0500

Residence:
4550 S. 117th Street
Greenfield, WI 53228-2451
(414) 425-4227

Madison Office:
Room 216 North, State Capitol
Post Office Box 8953
Madison, Wisconsin 53708
(608) 266-8590



82nd Assembly District
Cities of Greenfield,
Franklin and Milwaukee
Village of Greendale and
Town of Raymond

Legislative Hotline:
(Toll-free) 1-800-362-9472 (WISC)
FAX: (608) 266-7038

JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

March 4, 1997

Chris Kraczk
7271 Hyacinth Court
Greendale, WI 53129

Dear Chris:

I was able to reach a Lisa Nettekoven at the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions regarding the practice by some consumer loan companies to include home mortgages as collateral on consumer loans. I faxed Lisa a copy of the materials that you sent me and she will review the Department's files to determine the extent of this problem in Wisconsin. I have also enclosed for your perusal, a copy of the brief on mortgage regulation prepared by Legislative Council Senior Staff Attorney, Ron Sklansky. This is the same document I recently discussed with you over the phone.

Again, thank you for bringing this matter to my attention. If you have any additional information that may be beneficial, please feel free to contact me through the toll-free Legislative Hotline at 1-800-362-9472 (WISC) or through my Madison office at (608)266-8590 and I will call you back to save you the long distance charges. You can also reach me at home in Greenfield at (414)425-4227.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. RUTKOWSKI
State Representative

P.S. Best wishes! Keep in touch!

JAR:rl
Enclosure



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

One East Main Street, Suite 401; P.O. Box 2536; Madison, WI 53701-2536
Telephone (608) 266-1304
Fax (608) 266-3830

DATE: February 25, 1997
TO: REPRESENTATIVE JAMES RUTKOWSKI
FROM: Ronald Sklansky, Senior Staff Attorney
SUBJECT: Mortgage Regulation

This memorandum, prepared at your request, responds to a concern you have raised regarding mortgage regulation. Specifically, you have been alerted by a constituent to conditions requiring a default in a mortgage and you have asked whether the Legislature can react to this situation.

You have forwarded a portion of a contract containing language that has led to your concern. The contract between the lender and the borrower states in part that:

If the principal of your loan is more than \$25,000 or is secured by a first mortgage, you agree that you will be in default if any of the following events occur . . .

(3) you die or any guarantor of your agreement dies . . .

(6) you file a petition under the United States Bankruptcy Code, or someone files a petition against you . . . or

(9) we determine that there has been significant adverse change in your financial condition where the value of any property or collateral you have given us for security has gone down substantially. If there is a default, we may demand immediate payment of, and you agree to pay, the entire amount you owe us under this agreement

It appears that the Legislature may react to the conditions contained in notes or contracts accompanying mortgages in at least two ways. First, the Legislature could enact a law prohibiting, and making void, specified onerous conditions in the contractual relationship between a mortgagor and mortgagee. Whether such a law could apply to out-of-state lenders through an extension of Wisconsin's long-arm jurisdiction is speculative and may depend on the facts of a

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given situation. Also, whether such a law could apply to nationally chartered financial institutions would involve an investigation of federal law to determine whether federal preemption might be an issue. For example, see *Wisconsin League of Financial Institutions v. Galecki*, 707 F. Supp. 401 (W.D. Wis. 1989).

Second, even if Wisconsin law may not extend to particular lenders, a law could be enacted that applies to property located in Wisconsin. That is, ch. 846, Stats., relating to real estate foreclosure, could be amended to prohibit the judicial process of foreclosure on real estate located in Wisconsin when the alleged default is based on specified onerous conditions contained in the contractual relationship, or note, accompanying a mortgage. Again, the state may not be able to regulate certain lenders, but it can regulate the disposition of real estate in Wisconsin, at least with respect to contracts entered into in the future.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please feel free to contact me.

RS:wu;ksm