Bill

Received	d: 11/11/1998		Received By: hubliks						
Wanted:	Soon				Identical to LRB:				
For: Do	nald Hasenohr	1 (608) 266-83	66		By/Representing: Hanson Drafter: rmarchan				
This file	may be shown	to any legislato	or: NO						
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Received:	11/11/1998		Received By: hubliks						
Wanted: S	Soon				Identical to LRB:				
For: Don	ald Hasenohr	1 (608) 266-836	66		By/Representing: Hanson				
This file r	nay be shown	to any legislato		Drafter: rmarcha	n				
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Received:	11/11/1998		Received By: hubliks					
Wanted: S	Soon				Identical to LRB:			
For: Dona	ald Hasenohr	1 (608) 266-836	66		By/Representing: Hanson			
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For: Don	ald Hasenohr	1 (608) 266-830	66		By/Representing: Hanson			
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For: Don	ald Hasenoh	rl (608) 266-83	66		By/Representing:	By/Representing: Hanson			
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Bill

Received: 11/11/98	Received By: hubliks
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Wanted: Soon Identical to LRB:

For: **Donald Hasenohrl (608) 266-8366** By/Representing: **Hanson**

This file may be shown to any legislator: NO Drafter: **rmarchan**

May Contact: Alt. Drafters:

Subject: Fin. Inst. - banking inst. Extra Copies:

Fin. Inst. - WCA

Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Miscellaneous financing changes

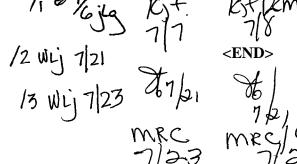
Instructions:

Replace rule of 78 in chapter 138 with acturial method; allow self-help repossession; eliminate 2% cap on loan administration fees.

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Received: 11/11/98 Received By: hubliks

Wanted: **Soon** . Identical to LRB:

For: **Donald Hasenohrl (608) 26643366** By/Representing: **Hanson**

This file may be shown to any legislator: NO Drafter: **rmarchan**

May Contact: Alt. Drafters:

Subject: Fin. Inst. - banking inst. Extra Copies:

Fin. Inst. - WCA

Topic:

Miscellaneous financing changes

Instructions:

Replace rule of 78 in chapter 138 with acturial method; allow self-help repossession; eliminate 2% cap on loan administration fees.

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For: Dona	ald Hasenoh	arl (608) 266-83	866		By/Representing	Hanson	56-5299
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Eliminate rule of 78 in chapter 138 (use acturial method); allow self-help repossession no need for a writ of replevin, Look at the UCCC for a remedy in the case of wrongul repossession; eliminate 2% nonrefundable points.					d for a writ		
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of reple	vin, provide r	n chapter 138; all emedy in the cas on self-deptosess	e of wrongu	p repossession	n (use actuarial an; eliminate 2%	method) no ne nonrefundable p	ed for a writ oints;
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LRB-0827/P1

RJM:./.

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

Dune

AN ACT. \(\sqrt{\cdots}, \); **relating to:** loan prepayment, loan administration fees in a consumer

credit transaction and repossession in a consumer credit transaction.

. gr. art.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a creditor may precompute the interest due on certain loans, expressing the total debt as the sum of the principal and the total amount of interest to be paid over the term of the loan. When a debtor prepays a precomputed loan, current law requires the creditor to rebate any unearned interest. In some circumstances, current law requires a creditor to calculate this amount of unearned interest using what is commonly referred to as the rule of 78. This computation method results in a greater proportion of the total interest being paid earlier in the loan term and, thus, results in a lower rebate of unearned interest upon prepayment. This bill requires a creditor, upon prepayment of a precomputed loan entered into on or after the effective date of the bill, to calculate unearned interest according to the actuarial method.

In addition, under current law, a creditor may generally retain a loan administration fee when a customer prepays a consumer credit transaction, refinancing or consolidation that is primarily secured by real property or a mobile home. Current law also allows a creditor to retain a loan administration fee when a customer prepays a residential mor gage loan. However, current law generally limits the loan administration fee to 2% of the amount financed in the consumer credit transaction or, in the case of a residential mortgage, 2% of the principal amount of any construction loan and 2% of the principal amount of any other loan. This bill removes these various caps on loan administration fees.

1

Current law also limits the authority of a creditor in a consumer credit transaction to repossess collateral and leased goods upon a consumer's default without first obtaining a court judgment. Under current law, a creditor may repossess this property without legal process if the consumer abandons or voluntarily surrenders the property. This bill authorizes a creditor to repossess collateral or leased goods without legal process upon default and after the consumer's right to cure expires, as long as the creditor does not enter the residence of the consumer and does not commit a breach of the peace.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 138.052 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

138.052 (3) (c) A loan administration fee charged by a lender, including fees paid to 3rd parties for loan administration services, not exceeding 2% of the principal amount of any construction loan and 2% of the principal amount of any other loan

SECTION 2. 138.09 (3) (e) 1. a! of the statutes is amended to read:

138.09 (3) (e) 1. a. A business engaged in making loans for business or agricultural purposes or exceeding \$25,000 in principal amount, except that all such loans having terms of 49 months or more are subject to sub. (7) (gm) $\frac{2}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ or

Section 3. 138.09 (7) (gm) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

or otherwise, the borrower shall receive a rebate of the unearned interest, unless the combined rebate of interest and credit insurance premiums otherwise required is less than \$1. If the first payment period of the loan is more than one month and the licensee charges additional interest under par. (c) 2., the additional interest is earned on the first instalment date and shall not be considered in computing the rebate of unearned interest under this subsection. The amount of the rebate of unearned interest shall be determined as follows:

25

1	1. For a loan of \$25,000 or less with a term of at least 49 months that was
2	entered into on or after November 1, 1981, and before August 1, 1987, for personal,
3	family, household or agricultural purposes, the licensee shall compute the rebate
4	under s. 422.209 (2) (b).
5	2. For a loan with a term of more than 49 months that was entered into on or
6	after May 10, 1984, and before August 1, 1987, the licensee shall compute the rebate
7	under s. 422.209 (2) (b).
8	3. For a loan of less than \$5000 that contains precomputed interest, is
9	repayable in substantially equal successive instalments at approximately equal
10	intervals, has a term of less than 37 months and was entered into on or after August
13	1, 1987, and before the effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date] the
12	licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (a).'
13	4. For a loan of less than \$5000 with a term of less than 37 months that was
14	entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this
15)	subdivision [revisor inserts date], but that does not contain precomputed interest
16	or is not repayable in substantially equal successive instalments at approximately
17	equal intervals, the amount of the rebate shall be at least the difference between the
18	interest charged and the interest earned at the agreed rate, computed on the unpaid
19	principal balance.
20	5. For a loan entered into on or after August 1, 1987, that does not meet the
21)	conditions of subd. For 4 the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2)
22	(b). '
23	SECTION 4. 138.09 (7) (jm) 1. of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:
24	138.09 (7) (jm) 1. Subject to subd. 2., a licensee may charge, in addition to

interest, a loan administration fee on a consumer loan, including a refinancing or

1	loan consolidation, only if the loan administration fee is for a consumer loan that is
2	secured primarily by an interest in either real property or a mobile home, as defined
3	in s. 218.10 (2).
4	SECTION 5. 138.09 (7) (jm) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:
5	138.09 (7) (jm) 3. A loan administration fee charged under this paragraph may
6	be included in the amount financed in the consumer loan. The loan administration
7 => PM	fee is earned by the licensee when charged and need not be refunded under par. (gm)
8	3 or 5. A licensee who charges a loan administration fee under this
9	paragraph may not also retain a loan administration fee under s. 422.209 (1m) in
10	connection with the same consumer loan transaction.
11	SECTION 6. 349.13 (3m) of the statutes is amended to read:
12	349.13 (3m) No vehicle involved in trespass parking on a private parking lo
13	or facility shall be removed without the permission of the vehicle owner, except upor
14	the issuance of a repossession judgment, upon renossession under s. 425.206 or upon
15	formal complaint and a citation for illegal parking issued by a traffic or police officer.
16	SECTION 7. 422.209 (1m) (a) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:
17	422.209 (lm) (a) In the event of prepayment under sub. (1) , a merchant may
18	retain a loan administration fee only if the loan administration fee is for a consumer
19	loan that is secured primarily by an interest in either real property or a mobile home,
20	as defined in s. 218.10 (2).
21	SECTION 8. 422.209 (2) (a) $3.$ of the statutes is amended to read:
22	422.209 (2) (a) 3. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount financed
23	is less than \$5,000, which have initial terms of less than 37 months and which are
24	entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this
25	subdivision [revisor inserts date].

1	SECTION 9. 422.209 (2) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:
2	422.209 (2) (c) 2. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount financed
3	is \$5,000 or more and which are entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before
4	the effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date].
5	SECTION 10. 422.209 (2) (c) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:
6	422.209 (2) (c) 3. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount financed
7	is less than \$5,000, which have initial terms of 37 months or more and which are
8	entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this
9	subdivision [revisor inserts date1].
10	SECTION 11. 422.209 (2) (c) 4. of the statutes is created to read:
11	422.209 (2) (c) 4. Consumer credit transactions entered into on or after the
12	effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date].
13	SECTION 12. 425.206 (1) and (2) of the statutes are repealed and recreated to
14	read:
15	425.206 (1) At any time after default and the expiration of the period for cure
16	of default a merchant may take possession of collateral or goods subject to a consumer delete extra space
16	lease without legal process only if the merchant satisfies all of the following:
18	(a) Takes possession without entering into a dwelling used by the customer as
19	a residence.
20	(b) Takes possession without committing a breach of the peace.
21	(2) This section shall not limit the authority of a merchant to take possession
22	of collateral or goods pursuant to a judgment in a proceeding under s. 425.205 or
23	425.203 (2), pursuant to s. 425.207 (2), or pursuant to the voluntary surrender of
24	collateral or goods by a customer.
25	(END)

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROMTHE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0827/P1dn
RJM:...f:...

- 1. **Self-help repossession and remedy.** Under s. 425.206 (3), if a creditor improperly repossesses property the customer may retain the goods, services or money received pursuant to the underlying transaction and recover anything paid to the creditor under the transaction. Also, s. 425.208 (1) allows a customer to redeem repossessed property within 15 days after repossession. If you intend to eliminate this right of redemption or if the remedy currently provided is otherwise not what you intended, please contact me and I will redraft the bill.
- 2. **Prepayment of certain loans.** In order to avoid impairment of contracts issues, this **draft** does not change the law with regard to existing loans. However, under this bill, creditors must use the actuarial method currently contained in s. 422.209 (2) (b) 1. or 2. to calculate the required interest rebate on any loan made after the effective date of the bill. please review the two versions of the actuarial method contained in s. 422.209 (2) (b) to ensure that both are consistent with your intent.

This draft would not apply to the early termination of a motor vehicle lease under s. 429.207. In addition, s. 424.205 (4) would allow the commissioner of insurance to promulgate a rule that varies from this dieta, relating to prepayment of a consumer credit transaction by the proceeds of consumer credit insurance. Furthermore, this would not affect the prepayment of a premium finance agreement under s. 138.12 (9), if the premium finance company is not also a licensed lender under s. 138.09. Please review these statutes and contact me if you desire any changes.

This draft also recreates s. 138.09 (7) (gm) in order to remove obsolete material and make the statute more readable. Section 138.09 (7) (gm) in the draft is substantively the same as the existing s. 138.09 (7) (gm), except for eliminating the rule of 78 for all new loans and deleting the current s. 138.09 (7) (gm) 1. The existing s. 138.09 (7) (gm) 1. is obsolete because it governs loans entered into on or after November 1, 1981 and before November 1, 1984 that have a term of less than 49 months. Please let me know if you do not approve of recreating s. 138.09 (7) (gm).

Section 138.09 (3) (e) 1. a. is ambiguous and may be in conflict with the dictates of s. 138.09 (7) because it only subjects certain loans having terms of 49 months or more to s. 138.09 (7) (gm). Please let me know if you desire an amendment to make all loans made under s. 138.09 (3) (e) 1. subject to s. 138.09 (7) (gm).

After you have reviewed the above issues, please contact me with any questions or suggested changes. I will then redraft the bill in introducible format.

Robert J. Marchant Legislative Attorney 261-4454

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROMTHE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0827/P1dn RJM:wlj&jlg:jf

February 12, 1999

- 1. **Self-help repossession and remedy.** Under s. 425.206 (3), if a creditor improperly repossesses property the customer may retain the goods, services or money received pursuant to the underlying transaction and recover anything paid to the creditor under the transaction. Also, s. 425.208 (1) allows a customer to redeem repossessed property within 15 days after repossession. If you intend to eliminate this right of redemption or if the remedy currently provided is otherwise not what you intended, please contact me and I will redraft the bill.
- **2. Prepayment of certain loans.** In order to avoid impairment of contracts issues, this bill does not change the law with regard to existing loans. However, under this bill, creditors must use the actuarial method currently contained in s. 422.209 (2) (b) 1. or 2. to calculate the required interest rebate on any loan made after the effective date of the bill. Please review the two versions of the actuarial method contained in s. 422.209 (2) (b) to ensure that both are consistent with your intent.

This bill would not apply to the early termination of a motor vehicle lease under s. 429.207. In addition, s. 424.205 (4) would allow the commissioner of insurance to promulgate a rule that varies from this bill, relating to prepayment of a consumer credit transaction by the proceeds of consumer credit insurance. Furthermore, this bill would not affect the prepayment of a premium finance agreement under s. 138.12 (9), if the premium finance company is not also a licensed lender under s. 138.09. Please review these statutes and contact me if you desire any changes.

This bill also recreates s. 138.09 (7) (gm) in order to remove obsolete material and make the statute more readable. Section 138.09 (7) (gm) in the bill is substantively the same as the existing s. 138.09 (7) (gm), except for eliminating the rule of 78 for all new loans and deleting the current s. 138.09 (7) (gm) 1. The existing s. 138.09 (7) (gm) 1. is obsolete because it governs loans entered into on or after November 1, 1981 and before November 1, 1984, that have a term of less than 49 months. Please let me know if you do not approve of recreating s. 138.09 (7) (gm).

Section 138.09 (3) (e) 1. a. is ambiguous and may be in conflict with the dictates of s. 138.09 (7) because it only subjects certain loans having terms of 49 months or more to s. 138.09 (7) (gm). Please let me know if you desire an amendment to make all loans made under s. 138.09 (3) (e) 1. subject to s. 138.09 (7) (gm).

After you have reviewed the above issues, please contact me with any questions or suggested changes. I will then redraft the bill in introducible format.

Robert J. Marchant Legislative Attorney 26 l-4454

Stewart Law Office

Walter R. Stewart

Susan M. Fuller

Daniel P. Dunn

Of Counsel FAX (608) 256-7909 330 East Wilson Street, Suite 100 Madison, Wisconsin 53703 (608) **256-7902** (e-mail) stewQitis.com

		DATE <u>5-24-99</u>
то: Rub	Marcha	mt
RE: LRI	30827	
FROM: W	Ur Stans	M
FOR: □ cl □	Approval Information Comment Signature	Review Cl Reply Files
PLEASE:	Return Retain	□ Forward □ h corre ora fe
REMARKS: _	Here me	some requested
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CTJ3/15/99

Wisconsin - Bill to Deregulate Points.

"Amount Financed" definition permits additional charges allowed by Sec. 422.202. No amendment needed.

Sec. 422.301.

- "Amount financed" in a consumer credit transaction means the total of the following items from which any prepard finance charge or required deposit balance has been excluded:
- In a consumer credit sale, the cash price of the real or personal property or services, less the amount of any down payment whether made in cash or in property traded in, or, in a consumer loan, the amount paid to, receivable by or paid or payable to the customer or to another person in **the** customer's behalf;
- In a consumer credit sale, the amount actually paid or to be paid by the creditor pursuant to an agreement with the customer to discharge a security interest in or a lien on property traded in; and
- (c) To the extent not included in paragraph (a) or (b):
- Any applicable sales, use, excise or documentary stamp taxes; 1.
- 2. Amounts actually paid or to be paid by the creditor for registration, certificate of title or license fees; and
- Additional charges permitted by § 422.202.

Amend "Precomputed" definition so that a simple interest loan is precomputed only if prepaid finance charges exceed half of the total scheduled "finance charge,"

Sec. 421.30'1

"Precomputed" with respect to a consumer credit transaction means a consumer credit transaction, other than a motor vehicle consumer lease, in which (a) the debt is expressed as a single sum comprised of the amount financed and the finance charge computed in advance of (b) the prepaid finance charge, when added to the scheduled finance charge, exceeds one-half of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the consumer credit transaction.

Amend "Prepaid Finance Charge" definition to exclude charges retained by the III. merchant under Sec. 422.202 from the definition of "prepaid finance charge" and permit such charges to be included in the Amount Financed, provided such charges do not exceed half of the total scheduled "finance charge."

Sec. 421.301

"Prepaid finance charge" means any finance charge paid separately, in cash or otherwise, directly or indirectly to the creditor or with the creditor's knowledge to another person or withheld by the creditor from the proceeds of the credit extended; provided,

IV.

however, charges retained by the merchant shall not be prepaid finance charge and such charges may be included in the amount financed if such charges, when added to the scheduled finance charge, do not exceed one-half of the total scheduled finance charges applicable to the consumer credit transaction.

Surve greston

Amend Sec. 422.202(2m) to permit any other charges, as agreed, which are not refundable upon prepayment in full, unless they are prepaid finance charges as defined by Sec. 421.301(36).

With respect to any consumer credit transaction an open and erodit plan, regardless of when the plan was entered into:

(a) A creditor may charge, collect and receive other fees and charges, in addition to the finance charge authorized under § 422.201, that are agreed upon by the creditor and the customer. These other fees and charges may include; but are not limited to origination fees, periodic membership fees, cash advance fees, charges for exceeding a designated credit limit, charges for late payments, charges for providing copies of documents and charges for the return of a dishonored check or other payment instruments [Charges allowed under this section shall be fully earned when the consumer credit transaction is made and shall not be refundable upon prepayment, unless such charges constitute prepaid finance charges, as defined by Sec. 421.301(36).

Amend Sec. 422.209(1m) to require refund of prepaid finance charges in a precomputed transaction, as defined by Secs. 42.301(35) and (36):

(lm) (a) In the event of prepayment under sub. (1), a creditor shall include any prepaid finance charge, as defined by Sec. 421.301(36), in the finance charge subject to refund a merchant may retain a loan administration fee that meets all of the following conditions:

1. The loan administration fee does not exceed 2% of the amount financed in the procomputed consumer credit transaction, refinancing or consolidation.

2. The loan administration fee is for a consumer loan that is secured primarily by an interest in real property or in a mobile home, as defined in §218.10(2).

(b).—Notwithstanding par.(a), if a merchant retains any portion of a loan administration fee charged on a loan that is prepaid from the proceeds of a new loan made by the same merchant within 6 months after the prior loan, then the merchant shall reduce any loan administration fee on the new loan by the amount of the loan administration fee on the prior loan that was retained by the merchant.



6-4-99
Tel Rep. Hasenohrl's office - O.K. to redraft per Welt Skuents anstructions
Tef Walt Stewart
(1) What to the INTENT of papers charges to 5.421.301 (35) + (36)?) Proposed language is confushy a probably involvable Need to clarity.
(2) Best to ellmente lost in 5.422.202 (2m) +
Just say any fel or clarge & o. K. Presence of list roay limit application. B RP 422. 209 (Im) altogether + put proposed language
B RP 422. 209 (Im) altogether + put proposed language M 422. 209 (I). Proposed deletes allog (Im) ayoung so heart to just RP it + put new concept cleret (est fite.
Walt will all me back. Still hopeful of getting druft in July

Stewart Law Office

Walter R. Stewart

Susan M. Fuller

Daniel P. Dunn Of Counsel FAX (608) 256-7909 **330** East Wilson **Street**, **Suite 100**Madison, **Wisconsin** 53703
(608) **256-7902**(e-mail) **stew@itis.com**

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DATE: June 8.1999

TRANSMISSION TO:

FAX NUMBER:

264-8522

ATTENTION:

ROB MARCHANT

SENDER:

Walter R. Stewart

RE:

LRB 0827

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08-07-99 03:11pm

From-AGF | FGAL DEPT



601 N.W. 2nd St, PO Box 59, Evansville, IN 47701-0059

FAX TRANSMISSION

Message To

Individual Walter **R**. Stewart

Company/Department Stewart Law Office, Madison Wisconsin

608/256-7909 Facsimile Number: 7 June, 1999 Date: Number of Pages (including cover): 4

Message From:

'Chris Jones Individual:

American General Finance Law Department Company/Department:

812/468-5320 Telephone Number: Facsimile Number: 812/468-5396

MESSAGE TO RECIPIENT

608/256-6222 Cc: Tom Hanson Pat **Essie** 608/251-8192 Ed **Heiser** 414/223-5000 Gary Armstrong 972/652-4001

Phil Hitz

Walt and others -

Please review and let me know if the attached is OK.

Thanks.

06-07-99

CTJ Draft **6/7/99**

Wisconsin Points Bill - LRB 0827

The following replies to Rob Marchart's comments:

From AGF LEGAL DEPT

Sec.I. Marchant is correct that no amendment is required to See. 422.301(5). Sec. **422.301(5)** provides that additional charges allowed by See. 422.202 are included in the WCA's "Amount Financed." Note that, since our amendment to Sec. 422.202 will include prepaid finance charges in the WCA "Amount Financed," this term will no longer be the same as the Federal Truth in Lending "Amount Financed." However, I do not believe that federal and state terminology need to be identical. It would take major changes to the WCA to make this amendment and use terminology throughout the WCA that would be consistent with Truth in Lending terminology. (See chart below.)

Sec. **II.** The amendment to the definition of "precomputed" in Sec. 42 1.30 1(15) is based on Sec. 5-3-107(2) of the Colorado Uniform Consumer Credit Code (U3C), which provides:

"A loan, refinancing, or consolidation is 'precomputed' only if the debt is expressed as a sum comprising the principal and the amount of the loan finance charge computed in advance or, if any portion of the loan finance charge is prepaid, the amount of that portion of the loan finance charge either computed in advance or prepaid constitutes more than one-half of the total loan finance charge applicable to the loan, refinancing, or consolidation." (emphasis added)

The WCA amended definition of "precomputed" is similar. A debt is "precomputed" if, **first**, the transaction is expressed as a "single sum" of amount financed and finance charge (rather than the "sum [of] principal andloan finance charge" in the Colorado U3C). To contract for this single sum, **the contract** would, assuming no prepaid finance charge, provide: "I promise to pay the Total of Payments (the sum of Amount Financed and Finance Charge) plus other charges, subject to refund of unearned Finance Charges in the event of prepayment in full." In this case, the Finance Charge is computed on scheduled prepaid balances of Amount Financed.

In the Colorado **U3C**, Sec. **5-3-201(2)** also provides:

"If the loan is precomputed,

- The loan **finance** charge may be calculated on the assumption that all scheduled payments will be made when due, and
- The **effect** of prepayment is governed by the provisions on rebate upon prepayment (section 5-3-210)."

From-AGF | EGAL DEPT

Similar language could also be added to the WCA to provide that "Scheduled **finance** charges are those **that** would be earned is the **finance** charge is **calculated** on the **assumption** that **all** scheduled payments **will** be made when due." However, I believe that the meaning of "scheduled" in the consumer finance industry is clear enough that this amendment is not needed when that term is used.

Second, I believe my language is **clearer** than, but with the same result as, the **Colorado** U3C **language** regarding prepaid **finance** charge. A contract that provides for simple interest, rather **than precomputation, will** provide (using Truth in Lending **definitions**): "I agree to pay Principal (the sum of Amount Finance and Prepaid Finance Charges) plus interest computed on **actual** unpaid balances of Principal for the actual time **outstanding.**"

However, under the Colorado and **WCA** approach, a simple interest contract would still be **considered "precomputed,"** if **the** prepaid finance charge more **than** half of the "total **scheduled" finance** charge. The Colorado language is **bolded** above. The "total scheduled" finance charge is the total of any prepaid finance charge and the **finance** charge (**interest**) that would be earned for payment on the scheduled due dates. Since "**scheduled**" makes clear that the determination is made based on scheduled **payments, this,** to me, seems clearer that **the** use of the word "applicable" in **the colorado** U3C.

Sec. III. I agree with Mr. Marchant that the second sentence of Sec. 422.202(2m) can be deleted. Note that I have defined, the term "prepaid finance charge" to apply only to amounts that exceed the "more than half" test, 'Thus, the effect of the new language is that a charge that does not meet the "more than half" test is not a prepaid finance charge and, thus, is not refundable in a simple interest transaction or a precomputed transaction. Under the Colorado language, if a charge that does not meet the "more than half" test included in a precomputed transaction, that charge would be refundable.

Also note, that, under this language, a charge earned in advance may not be a "prepaid finance charge" under the WCA, even though it is a "prepaid finance charge" under Truth In Lending. However, again, it is not necessary that state and federal terminology correspond.

Sec. IV. I agree with Mr. Marchant that the language in Sec. 422.209(1m), as amended, could be included in Sec. 422.209(1) and (lm) can be repealed.

STEWART LAW OFFICE

PAGE 05 +8124885396 f-608 P.04/04 F-244

Example.

	Zittili pict	
Amount	WCA Term	TILA Term
\$10,000 cash proceeds	None	Amount Financed
Plus \$500 points	None (would be a prepaid finance charge only if exceeded \$5,000)	Prepaid Finance Charge
Equals \$10,500 Principal	Are plant Financed	None
\$9,500 interest scheduled for the term of the loan	Finance Charge	None
\$10,000 (\$9,500 plus \$500)	None	Finance Charge
\$20,000 (Principal plus Interest)	None	Total of Payments

-Stewart Law Office

Walter R. Stewart Susan M. Fuller

Daniel P. DunnOf **Counsel**FAX (608) 256-7909

330 East Wilson Street, Suite 100, Madison, Wisconsin 53703 (608) 256-7902 (e-mail) stew@itis.com

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DATE: June 28, 1999

TRANSMISSIONTO:

FAX NUMBER: 264-852

ATTENTION: ROB MARCHANT

SENDER: Walter R. Stewart

RE: **LRB** 0827

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Stewart Law Office

Walter R. Stewart Susan M. Fuller

Daniel P. **Dunn** Of Counsel FAX (608) 256-7909 330 East Wilson Street, Suite 100 Madison, Wisconsin 53703 (608) 256-7902 (e-mail) stew@itis.com

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

June 28, 1999

TO:

ROB MARCHANT

FROM:

Walter R. Stewart

RE:

LRB 0827

This memorandum follows our telephone conversation **on** June 10, 1999, concerning the legislation identified above.

Our conversation focused on Wisconsin Statute § 422.202(2m). The suggestion was to amend the section to permit any additional charges as the parties by contract may agree. You responded to this suggestion by questioning the need for the other provisions in Chapter 422 which permit additional charge-s. In other words, the additional charges specifically permitted in Chapter 422 would be deleted in favor of the amendment's unlimited permissible additional charges.

In order to keep this project **moving, I** request that we amend subsection 2m to include origination fees in **open-end** credit plans. I **understand** that this request would apply only to open-end plans.

I hope this memorandum will help to move the project along. Please call me if you have any questions.

cc: Tom Hanson



State of Misconsin 1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

July 15

LRB-0827&&L RJM:wlj&jlg:jf

Stays RMNR

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

DIOTE

, loan origination fees, prepair finance charges and interest

AN ACT relating to: loan prepayment, loan administration fees to a consumer

and repossession in a consumer credit transaction,

___ Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a creditor may precompute the interest due on certain loans, expressing the total debt as the sum of the principal and the total amount of interest to be paid over the term of the loan. When a debtor prepays a precomputed loan, current law requires the creditor to rebate any unearned interest. In some circumstances, current law requires a creditor to calculate this amount of unearned interest using what is commonly referred to as the rule of 78. This computation method results in a greater proportion of the total interest being paid earlier in the loan term and, thus, results in a lower rebate of unearned interest upon prepayment. This bill requires a creditor, upon prepayment of a precomputed loan entered into on or after the effective date of the bill, to calculate unearned interest according to the actuarial method.

In addition, under current law, a creditor may generally retain a loan administration fee when a customer prepays a consumer credit transaction, refinancing or consolidation that is primarily secured by real property or a mobile home. Current law also allows a creditor to retain a loan administration fee when a customer prepays a residential mortgage loan. However, current law generally limits the loan administration fee to 2% of the amount financed in the consumer credit transaction or, in the case of a residential mortgage, 2% of the principal amount of any construction loan and 2% of the principal amount of any other loan. This bill removes these various caps on loan administration fees.

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Current law also limits the authority of a creditor in a consumer credit transaction to repossess collateral and leased goods upon a consumer's default without first obtaining a court judgment. Under current law, a creditor may repossess this property without legal process if the consumer abandons or voluntarily surrenders the property. This bill authorizes a creditor to repossess collateral or leased goods without legal process upon default and after the consumer's right to cure expires, as long as the creditor does not enter the residence of the consumer and does not commit a breach of the peace

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 138.052 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

138.052 (3) (c) A loan administration fee charged by a lender, including fees paid to 3rd parties for loan administration services 3 amount of any construction loan and 2% of the principal amount of any other loan

SECTION 2. 138.09 (3) (e) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

138.09 (3) (e) 1. a. A business engaged in making loans for business or agricultural purposes or exceeding \$25,000 in principal amount, except that all such loans having terms of 49 months or more are subject to sub. (7) (gm) 2. or 4. 1.. 2. or 5.

SECTION 3. 138.09 (7) (gm) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

138.09 (7) (gm) Upon prepayment in full of a loan by cash, renewal, refinancing or otherwise, the borrower shall receive a rebate of the unearned interest, unless the combined rebate of interest and credit insurance premiums otherwise required is less than \$1. If the first payment period of the loan is more than one month and the licensee charges additional interest under par. (c) 2., the additional interest is earned on the first instalment date and shall not be considered in computing the rebate of unearned interest under this subsection. The amount of the rebate of unearned interest shall be determined as follows:



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- 1. For a loan of \$25,000 or less with a term of at least 49 months that was entered into on or after November 1, 1981, and before August 1, 1987, for personal, family, household or agricultural purposes, the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (b).
 - 2. For a loan with a term of more than 49 months that was entered into on or after May 10, 1984, and before August 1, 1987, the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (b).
 - 3. For a loan of less than \$5,000 that contains precomputed interest, is repayable in substantially equal successive instalments at approximately equal intervals, has a term of less than 37 months and was entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date], the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (a).
 - 4. For a loan of less than \$5,000 with a term of less than 37 months that was entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date], but that does not contain precomputed interest or is not repayable in substantially equal successive instalments at approximately equal intervals, the amount of the rebate shall be at least the difference between the interest charged and the interest earned at the agreed rate, computed on the unpaid principal balance.
 - 5. For a loan entered into on or after August 1, 1987, that does not meet the conditions of subd. 3. or 4., the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (b).

SECTION 4. 138.09 (7) (jm) 1 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read: 138.09 (7) (jm) 1. Subject to subd. 2. a licensee may charge, in addition to

interest, a loan administration fee On a consumer loan, including a refinancing or

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loan consolidation, only if the loan administration fee is for a consumer loan that is 1 2 secured primarily by an interest in either real property or a mobile home, as defined in s. 218.10 (2). 3 SECTION 5. 138.09 (7) (im) 3. of the statutes is amended to read: 4 138.09 (7) (jm) 3. A loan administration fee charged under this paragraph may 5 be included in the amount financed in the consumer loan. The loan administration 6 fee is earned by the licensee when charged and need not be refunded under par. (gm) 7 3. er. 4. or 5. A licensee who charges a loan administration fee under this paragraph 8 may not also retain a loan administration fee under s. 422.209 (1m) in connection 9 10 with the same consumer loan transaction. 11 **SECTION** 6. 349.13 (3m) of the statutes is amended to read: 349.13 (3m) No vehicle involved in trespass parking on a private parking lot 13 or facility shall be removed without the permission of the vehicle owner, except upon 14 the issuance of a repossession judgment, upon repossession under s. 425,206 or upon (15)formal complaint and a citation for illegal parking issued by a traffic or police officer. **SECTION 7.** 422.209 (1m) (a) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read: 16 422/209 (1m) (a) In the event of prepayment under sub. (1), a merchant may 17 retain a loan administration fee only if the loan administration fee is for a consumer 18 loan that is secured primarily by an interest in either real property or a mobile home, 19 as defined in s. 2/18.10 (2). 20 21

SECTION 8. 422.209 (2) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

422.209 (2) (a) 3. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount financed is less than \$5,000, which have initial terms of less than 37 months and which are entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this subdivision . . . [revisor inserts date].

1	SECTION 9. 422.209 (2) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:
2	422.209 (2) (c) 2. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount financed
3	is \$5,000 or more and which are entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before
4	the effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts datel.
5	SECTION 10. 422.209 (2) (c) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:
6	422.209 (2) (c) 3. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount financed
7	is less than \$5,000, which have initial terms of 37 months or more and which are
8	entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this
9	subdivision [revisor inserts date].
10	SECTION 11. 422.209 (2) (c) 4. of the statutes is created to read:
11	422.209 (2) (c) 4. Consumer credit transactions entered into on or after the
12	effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date].
13	SECTION 12. 425.206 (1) and (2) of the statutes are repealed and recreated to
14	read:
15	425.206 (1) At any time after default and the expiration of the period for cure
16	of default a merchant may take possession of collateral or goods subject to a consumer
17	lease without legal process only if the merchant satisfies all of the following:
18	(a) Takes possession without entering into a dwelling used by the customer as
19	a residence.
20	(b) Takes possession without committing a breach of the peace.
21	(2) This section shall not limit the authority of a merchant to take possession
22	of collateral or goods pursuant to a judgment in a proceeding under s. 425.205 or
23	425.203 (2), pursuant to s. 425.207 (2), or pursuant to the voluntary surrender of
24	collateral or goods by a customer.
25	(END)

1999-2000 DRAFTING INSERT FROM THE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

INSERT ANALYSIS

Proof plactronic version
WPO:
Proof electronic version
With one is the one I
This one is the one I Currently, the Wisconsin consumer act (WCA) contains numerous provisions regulating credit transactions that are entered into for personal, family or household purposes and in which the amount financed is \$25,000 or less. Furthermore, the statutes governing certain lenders licensed by the division of banking in the department of financial institutions (ficensed lender law) contain numerous provisions regulating loans made by lenders other than banks, credit unions, savings and loan associations and savings banks. This bill makes several changes to the WCA and the licensed lender law. These changes include:

Rebate due upon prepayment of a precomputed loan

Under both the WCA and the licensed lender law, a creditor may precompute the finance charges or interest due on certain transactions or loans. Under the WCA, with certain exceptions, a precomputed transaction is a transaction in which the debt is expressed as a single sum comprised of the amount financed and the finance charges computed in advance. A similar definition applies for loans made under the licensed lender law. Under both the WCA and the licensed lender law, when a borrower prepays a precomputed transaction or loan, the creditor must calculate and rebate any unearned finance charges or interest. This bill expands the definition of a precomputed transaction or loan under the WCA and the licensed lender law to include any transaction or loan in which a borrower prepays a finance charge or interest. By expanding this definition, this bill expands the circumstances under which a creditor must pay a rebate upon prepayment. However, this expansion is subject to the limitation of the definition of the term "prepaid finance charge" noted below.

In some circumstances, both the WCA and the licensed lender law require a creditor to calculate this rebate of unearned finance charges or interest using what is commonly referred to as the rule of 78. This computation method results in a greater proportion of the total finance charges or interest being paid earlier in the loan term and, thus, results in a lower rebate of unearned finance charges or interest upon prepayment. This bill eliminates the use of the rule of 78 for any precomputed transaction or loan entered into on or after the effective date MANA and, thus, increases the likelihood of a borrower under the WCA and the licensed lender law receiving a larger rebate upon prepayment.

Additional charges; amount financed, Currently, the WCA and the licensed len er law permit certain creditors to charge various expressly authorized additional charges. These expressly authorized additional charges are included in the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed under these transactions or loans; however, these expressly authorized additional charges are not considered finance charges or Thus, upon prepayment of a precomputed transaction or loan, these expressly authorized additional charges are not included in the rebate of unearned finance charges or interest.

Under the WCA, a creditor who extends open-end credit (typically, pursuant to a credit card or line of credit) may assess the following expressly authorized

additional charges: membership fees; cash advance fees: fees for exceeding a designated credit limit, late payment fees, fees for providing copies of documents and fees for the return of a dishonored check. The licensed lender law permits a creditor to assess these same additional charges. In addition, upon prepayment of a precomputed transaction or loan under the WCA or the licensed lender law, a creditor may charge a loan administration fee equal to not more than 2% of the total amount financed, if the transaction or loan is secured primarily by an interest in land or by an interest in a mobile home.

This bill adds loan origination fees to the list of expressly authorized additional charges under the WCA and the licensed lender law. Furthermore, this bill removes the cap on loan administration fees, includes loan administration fees as an expressly authorized additional charge and no longer limits loan administration fees to transaction or loans that are secured by an interest in land or an interest in a mobile home. In additionar, by including loan administration fees and loan origination fees as expressly authorized additional charges, this bill expands the permissible charges that may be included in the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed. Also, by including loan origination fees as an expressly authorized additional charge, this bill expands the fees that a creditor may retain upon prepayment of the transaction or loan.

Definition of "Frepaid finance charge" and "Amount financed" under the WCA

Under the WCA, a creditor may require a borrower to prepay a finance charge. A prepaid finance charge is excluded from the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed under a loan. The WCA defines the term "prepaid finance charge" broadly as any finance charge paid separately to the creditor or, with the creditor's knowledge, to another person or any charge withheld by the creditor from the proceeds of the credit extended. The licensed lender law does not contain a similar provision.

Under this bill, a finance charge paid separately or withheld is only considered a prepaid finance charge under the WCA if the total of all finance charges paid separately or withheld is more than one-half of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the transaction. Any finance charges paid separately or withheld that are less than this amount are included in the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed under the loan. In addition, this bill permits a creditor under the WCA, upon prepayment of a transaction, to retain any finance charges paid separately or withheld that are less than this amount. Furthermore, this bill permits a creditor under the licensed lender law, upon prepayment of a loan, to retain any interest paid separately or withheld, if the total of all interest paid separately or withheld is not more than one-half of the total scheduled interest for the loan. This bill also makes a conforming change to the statute governing residential mortgage loans, permitting a creditor to retain a similar amount of interest upon prepayment of a residential mortgage loan.

Repossession of collateral under the WCA

The WCA currently limits the authority of a creditor to repossess collateral and leased goods upon a consumer's default without first obtaining a court judgment.

Under current law, a creditor under the WCA may repossess this property without legal process if the consumer abandons or voluntarily surrenders the property. Currently, no specific provision governs the repossession of collateral securing obligations under the licensed lender law.

This bill authorizes a creditor under the WCA to repossess collateral or leased goods without legal process upon default and after the consumer's right to cure expires, as long as the creditor does not enter the residence of the consumer and does not commit a breach of the peace. This bill does not create any similar provisions in the licensed lender law.

INSERT 2-9

SECTION 1. 138.09 (7) (a) 1. of the statutes is renumbered 138.09 (7) (a) 1. (intro.) and amended to read:

138.09 (7) (a) 1. (intro.) "Precomputed loan" means a loan that satisfies any of the following:

a. Is a loan in which the debt is expressed as a sum comprising the principal and the amount of interest computed in advance.

SECTION # CR; 138.09 (1)(0)1.6.

SECTION # CR; 138.09 (7)(a)1.6.

138.09(1)(a)1.b. Is a loan in which the debtor pays interest, separately, in cash or otherwise,

person or in which the creditor withholds interest charged from the proceeds of the credit extended, if the amount of the interest paid or withheld is greater than one-half of the total scheduled interest applicable to the loan.

INSERT 3-22

SECTION 2. 138.09 (7) (gt) of the statutes is created to read:

138.09 (7) (gt) Notwithstanding par. (gm) 1. to 5., if a debtor prepays a loan in which the debtor has paid interest, separately, in cash or otherwise, directly or indirectly to the creditor or with the creditor's knowledge to another person or in which the creditor has withheld amounts from the proceeds of the credit extended for interest charged, the amount of interest that is paid separately and the amounts

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that are withheld are fully earned at the time that the loan is made and need not be included in any rebate upon prepayment, if the total amount of all interest paid separately and' amounts withheld in the loan transaction is not greater than one-half of the total scheduled interest applicable to the loan.

SECTION 3. 138.09 (7) (jm) 1. of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 4. 138.09 (7) (jm) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

138.09 (7) (jm) 2. Notwithstanding subdiffer. (i) if a licensee charges a loan administration fee on a consumer loan that is prepaid from the proceeds of a new loan made by the same licensee within 6 months after the prior loan, then the licensee shall reduce any loan administration fee on the new loan by the amount of the loan administration fee on the prior loan.

SECTION 5. 138.09 (7) (jm) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

138.09 (7) (jm) 3. A loan administration fee charged under this paragraph par. (T) 1. may be included in the amount financed in the consumer loan.

n administration fee is earned by the licensee when charged and need not be refunded under par. (gm) 3. or, 4. or 5. A licensee who charges a loan administration fee under this paragraph par. (i) 1. may not also retain a loan administration fee under s. 422.209 (1m) in connection with (\$\frac{1}{222.202} (2m) upon prenayment of the same consumer loan transaction.

INSERT 4-15

SECTION 6. **421.301** (5) (c) 4. of the statutes is created to read:

421.301 (5) (c) 4. Any finance charge that is paid separately by the customer or withheld by the creditor as described in (36), if the total amount of all

finance charges for the transaction that are paid separately or withheld is not greater than one-half of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the transaction.

SECTION 7. **421.301 (29)** of the statutes is amended to read:

421.301 (29) "Other than open-end credit" means consumer credit other than an open-end credit plan itself, or other than consumer credit transactions pursuant to an open-end credit plan, and includes **precomputed** transactions <u>described in sub. (35) (a)</u>.

SECTION 8. 421.301 (35) of the statutes is renumbered 421.301 (35) (intro.) and amended to read:

421.301 (35) (intro.) "Precomputed" with respect to a consumer credit transaction means a consumer credit transaction, other than a motor vehicle consumer lease, that satisfies any of the following:

(a) Is a transaction in which debt is expressed as a single sum comprised of the amount financed and the finance charge computed in advance.

(b) Is a transaction in which a prepaid finance charge is assessed.

SECTION 9. 421.301 (36) of the statutes is amended to read:

421.301 (36) "Prepaid finance charge" means any finance charge paid separately, in cash or otherwise, directly or indirectly to the creditor or with the creditor's knowledge to another person or withheld by the creditor from the proceeds of the credit extended, if the total amount of all finance charges for the transaction that are paid separately or withheld is greater than one—half of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the transaction.

SECTION 10. 422.202 (2m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

422.202 (2m) (a) A creditor may charge, collect and receive other fees and charges, in addition to the finance charge authorized under s. 422.201, that are

agreed upon by the creditor and the customer. These other fees and charges may include <u>loan origination fees</u>. <u>loan administration fees</u>, periodic membership fees, cash advance fees, charges for exceeding a designated credit limit, charges for late payments, charges for providing copies of documents and charges for the return of a dishonored check or other payment instrument.

SECTION 11. 422.209 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

422.209 (1) Except resided in sul. (1-x), upon bon prepayment in full of the unpaid balance of a precomputed consumer credit transaction, refinancing or consolidation, an amount not less than the unearned portion of the finance charge calculated according to this section, together with any prepaid finance charge, shall be rebated to the customer. If Notwithstanding sub. (2), a finance charge that is paid senarately by the customer or withheld by the creditor as described in s. 421.301 (36) is fully earned at the time that the consumer credit transaction is made and need not be included in any rebate upon prenayment. If the total amount of all finance charges for the transaction that are paid separately or withheld is not greater than one-half of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the transaction. In addition, if the total of all rebates, refunds and credits to be paid to the customer under chs. 421 to 427 is less than \$1, no rebate need be made.

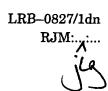
SECTION 12. 422.209 (lm) (a) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 13. 422.209 (lm) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 422.209 (lg) and amended to read:

422.209 (**Ig**) Notwithstanding par. (a) s. 422.202 (2m), if a merchant retains any portion of a loan administration fee charged on a loan that is prepaid from the proceeds of a new loan made by the same merchant within 6 months after the prior loan, then the merchant shall reduce any loan administration fee on the new loan by

the amount of the loan administration fee on the prior loan that was retained by the merchant.

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU



- 1. With the permission of your office, I completed the attached redraft upon the request of Walt Stewart. I received three faxes from Walt Stewart requesting various changes and additions to the original **draft** and I have attempted to incorporate the intent of those changes and additions into this draft. If this draft is not consistent with your intent, please let me know.
- 2. Walt Stewart requested an amendment to the definition of the term "precomputed." This amendment resulted in a need to amend the definition of the phrase "other than open-end credit" in order to preserve the current meaning. Please review this change and let me know if it is not consistent with your intent. See proposed s. 421.301 (29).
- 3. This bill makes changes to ch. 138 in order to maintain consistency between the consumer act and the licensed lender law. Please let me know if you do not intend to make these changes to ch. 138.
- 4. Under the proposed changes to the licensed lender law and the consumer act, certain amounts of prepaid interest or finance charges are not subject to the provisions requiring rebate upon prepayment of a loan or transaction. See proposed s. 138.09 (7) (g-t), for example. Do you intend to make a similar change to s. 138.052 (3) regarding the prepayment of a residential mortgage loan? If so, please let me know.
- 5. Walt Stewart requested that s. 422.202 (2m), stats., be amended to specify that a fee collected under that subsection is not subject to rebate upon prepayment. However, this change is unnecessary and I did not include it. Section 422.209, stats., requires a rebate of unearned finance charges upon prepayment. The definition of the term "finance charge" in s. 421.301 already excludes charges under s. 422.202.

Robert J. Marchant Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261-4454

E-mail: Robert.Marchant@legis.state.wi.us



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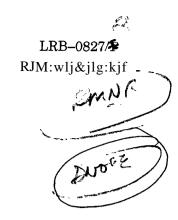
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State of Misconsin 1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

Friday, July 23

1999 BILL



resonation

AN ACT to repeal 138.09 (7) (jm) 1. and 422.209 (1m) (a); to renumber and amend 138.09 (7) (a) 1., 421.301 (35) and 422.209 (lm) (b); to amend 138.052 (3) (c), 138.09 (3) (e) 1. a., 138.09 (7) (jm) 2., 138.09 (7) (jm) 3., 349.13 (3m), 421.301 (29), 421.301 (36), 422.202 (2m) (a), 422.209 (1), 422.209 (2) (a) 3., 422.209 (2) (c) 2. and 422.209 (2) (c) 3.; to repeal and recreate 138.09 (7) (gm) and 425.206 (1) and (2); and to create 138.09 (7) (a) 1. b., 138.09 (7) (gt), 421.301 (5) (c) 4., 421.301 (35) (b) and 422.209 (2) (c) 4. of the statutes; relating to: loan prepayment, loan administration fees, loan origination fees prepaid finance charges and interest and repossession upon default in a consumer credit transaction.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the Wisconsin consumer act (WCA) contains numerous provisions regulating credit transactions that are entered into for personal, family or household purposes and in which the amount financed is \$25,000 or less. Furthermore, the statutes governing certain lenders licensed by the division of banking in the department of financial institutions (licensed lender law) contain numerous

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provisions regulating loans made by lenders other than banks, credit unions, savings and loan associations and savings banks. This bill makes several changes to the WCA and the licensed lender law. These changes include:

Rebate due upon prepayment of a precomputed loan

Under both the WCA and the licensed lender law, a creditor may precomputathe finance charges or interest due on certain transactions or loans. Under the WCA, with certain exceptions, a precomputed transaction is a transaction in which the debt is expressed as a single sum comprised of the amount financed and the finance charges computed in advance. A similar definition applies for loans made under the licensed lender law. Under both the WCA and the licensed lender law, when a borrower prepays a precomputed transaction or loan, the creditor must calculate and rebate any unearned finance charges or interest. This bill expands the definition of a precomputed transaction or loan under the WCA and the licensed lender law to include any transaction or loan in which appears finance charges or interest. By expanding this definition, this bill expands the circumstances under which a creditor must pay a rebate upon prepayment. However this expansionals

which a creditor must pay a rebate upon prepayment. However, this expansion is subject to the limitation of the definition of the term "prepaid finance charge" noted

In some circumstances, both the WCA and the licensed lender law require a creditor to calculate this rebate of unearned finance charges or interest using what is commonly referred to as the rule of 78. This computation method results in a greater proportion of the total finance charges or interest being paid earlier in the loan term and, thus, results in a lower rebate of unearned finance charges or interest upon prepayment. This bill eliminates the use of the rule of 78 for any precomputed transaction or loan entered into on or after the date on which this bill becomes law and, thus, increases the likelihood of a borrower under the WCA and the licensed lender law receiving a larger rebate upon prepayment.

Additional charges comount-financed; and rebote upon-prepayment

Currently, the WCA and the licensed lender law permit certain creditors to charge various expressly authorized additional charges. These expressly authorized additional charges are included in the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed under these transactions or loans; however, these expressly authorized additional charges are not considered finance charges or interest. Thus, upon prepayment of a precomputed transaction or loan, expressly authorized additional charges are not included in the rebate of unearned finance charges or interest.

Under the WCA, a creditor who extends open-end credit (typically, pursuant to a credit card or line of credit) may assess the following expressly authorized additional charges: membership fees; cash advance fees; fees for exceeding a designated credit limit; late payment fees; fees for providing copies of documents; and fees for the return of a dishonored check. The licensed lender law permits a creditor to assess these same additional charges. In addition, upon prepayment of a precomputed transaction or loan under the WCA or the licensed lender law, a creditor may charge a loan administration fee equal to not more than 2% of the total

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these expressly authorized authorized charest reduced interest rate interest rate disclosures and

amount financed, if the transaction or loan is secured primarily by an interest in land or by an interest in a mobile home.

This bill adds loan origination fees to the list of expressly authorized additional charges under the WCA and the licensed lender law. Furthermore, this bill removes the cap on loan administration fees, includes loan administration fees as an expressly authorized additional charge and no longer limits loan administration fees to transactions or loans that are secured by an interest in land or an interest in a mobile home. In addition, by including loan administration fees and loan origination fees as expressly authorized additional charges, this bill expands the permissible charges that may be included in the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed. As a princhiding lean origination fees as an expressly authorized additional charge, this bill expands the fees that a creditor may retain, upon prepayment of the transaction or loan.

Definition of prepaid finance-charge" of the amount financed funder

Under the WCA, a creditor may require a borrower to prepay a finance charge. A prepaid finance charge is excluded from the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed under a charge. The WCA defines the term prepaid finance charge broadly as any finance charge paid separately to the creditor or, with the creditor's knowledge, to another person or any charge withheld by the creditor from the proceeds of the credit extended. The licensed lender law does not contain a similar provision.

Under this bill, a finance charge paid separately or withheld is only considered a prepaid finance charge under the WCA if the total of all finance charges paid separately or withheld is more than one half of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the transaction. Any finance charges paid separately or withheld that are less than this amount are included in the total amount financed for the purpose of calculating interest owed under the loan and additions this bill permits a creditor under the loan are less than this amount. Furthermore, this bill permits a creditor under the licensed lender law, upon prepayment of a loan, to retain any interest paid separately or withheld, if the total of all interest paid separately or withheld is not more than one—half of the total scheduled interest for the loan. This ball also makes a conforming change to the statute governing residential mortgage loans, permitting a creditor to retain a similar amount of interest poon prepayment of a residential mortgage loan.

Repossession of collateral under the WCA

The WCA currently limits the authority of a creditor to repossess collateral and leased goods upon a consumer's default without first obtaining a court judgment. Under current law, a creditor under the WCA may repossess this property without legal process if the consumer abandons or voluntarily surrenders the property. Currently, no specific provision governs the repossession of collateral securing obligations under the licensed lender law.

This bill authorizes a creditor under the WCA to repossess collateral or leased goods without legal process upon default and after the consumer's right to cure

However, under this bill, expressly anthorized add Homal charges add Homal charges and Homal or the finance of or the finance of the total principal if the total one-half more charges is not charges is not charges in one-half more charge or finance charge or inkiest affiliable to inkiest affiliable to inkiest affiliable to inkiest affiliable to inkiest affiliable or

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expires, as long as the creditor does not enter the residence of the consumer and does not commit a breach of the peace. This bill does not create any similar provisions in the licensed lender law.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 138.052 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read: 2 138.052 (3) (c) A loan administration fee charged by a lender, including fees 3 paid to 3rd parties for loan administration service: 4 amount of any construction loan and 2% of the principal amount of any other loan. **SECTION** 2. 138.09 (3) (e) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read: 5 138.09 (3) (e) 1. a. A business engaged in making loans for business or 6 agricultural purposes or exceeding \$25,000 in principal amount, except that all such 7 8 loans having terms of 49 months or more are subject to sub. (7) (gm) 3 1... 2. or 9 <u>5.</u> **SECTION** 3. **138.09** (7) (a) 1. of the statutes is renumbered 138.09 (7) (a) 1. 10 (intro.) and amended to read: 11 12 138.09 (7) (a) 1. (intro.) "Precomputed loan" means a loan that satisfies any of the following: **13**. 14 a. Is a loan in which the debt is expressed as a sum comprising the principal 15 and the amount of interest computed in advance. **SECTION** 4. 138.09 (7) (a) **1.** b. of the statutes is created to read: 16 138.09 (7) (a) 1. b. Is a loan in which the determination the determination of the last and the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the determination of the last a loan in which the last a loan in which the last a loan in which the last a loan in the or otherwise, directly or indirectly to the creditor or with the creditor's knowledge to canother person or in which the creditor withholds interest charged from the proceeds

prepaid finance charge

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of the eredit extended, if the amount of the interest paid or withheld is greater than toth lany prepared trance (described in post (a) Im. b

one-half of the total scheduled interest applicable to the loan.

SECTION 5. 138.09 (7) (gm) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

138.09 (7) (gm) Upon prepayment in full of a loan by cash, renewal, refinancing or otherwise, the borrower shall receive a rebate of the unearned interest, unless the combined rebate of interest and credit insurance premiums otherwise required is less than \$1. If the first payment period of the loan is more than one month and the licensee charges additional interest under par. (c) 2., the additional interest is earned on the first instalment date and shall not be considered in computing the rebate of unearned interest under this subsection. The amount of the rebate of unearned interest shall be determined as follows:

- 1. For a loan of \$25,000 or less with a term of at least 49 months that was entered into on or after November 1, 1981, and before August 1, 1987, for personal, family, household or agricultural purposes, the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (b).
- 2. For a loan with a term of more than 49 months that was entered into on or after May 10, 1984, and before August 1, 1987, the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (b).
- 3. For a loan of less than \$5,000 that contains precomputed interest, is repayable in substantially equal successive instalments at approximately equal intervals, has a term of less than 37 months and was entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date], the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (a).
- 4. For a loan of less than \$5,000 with a term of less than 37 months that was entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this

subdivision [revisor inserts date], but that does not contain precomputed interest or is not repayable in substantially equal successive instalments at approximately equal intervals, the amount of the rebate shall be at least the difference between the interest charged and the interest earned at the agreed rate, computed on the unpaid principal balance.

5. For a loan entered into on or after August 1, 1987, that does not meet the conditions of subd. 3. or 4., the licensee shall compute the rebate under s. 422.209 (2) (b).

SECTION 6. 138.09 (7) (gt) of the statutes is created to read:

138.09 (7) (gt) Notwithstanding par. (gm) 1. to 5., if a debtor prepays a loan in which the debtor has paid interest, separately, in cash of otherwise, directly or indirectly to the creditor or with the creditor's knowledge to another person or in which the creditor has withheld amounts from the proceeds of the credit extended for interest charged, the amount of interest that is paid separately and the amounts that are withheld are fully earned at the time that the loan is made and need not be included in any rebate upon prepayment, if the total amount of all interest paid separately and amounts withheld in the loan transaction is not greater than one half of the total scheduled interest applicable to the loan.

SECTION 7. 138.09 (7) (jm) 1. of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 8. 138.09 (7) (jm) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

1 138.09 (7) (jm) 2. Notwithstanding subd. par. (i) l., if a licensee charges a loan administration fee on a consumer loan that is prepaid from the proceeds of a new loan made by the same licensee within 6 months after the prior loan, then the licensee shall reduce any loan administration fee on the new loan by the amount of the loan administration fee on the prior loan.

par. (1) I for a consumer loan is the applicable to the lower, a

SECTION 9. 138.09 (7) (jm) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

138.09 (7) (jm) 3. A loan administration fee charged under this paragraph par.

(i) 1. may be included in the amount financed in the consumer loan. The loan administration fee is earned by the licensee when charged and need not be refunded under par. (gm) 3. er, 4. Ar licensee who charges a loan administration fee under this paragraph par. (i) 1. may not also retain a loan administration fee under s. 422.209 (1m) in connection with 422.202 (2m) upon prenavment of the same consumer loan transaction.

SECTION 10. 349.13 (3m) of the statutes is amended to read:

349.13 (**3m**) No vehicle involved in trespass parking on a private parking lot or facility shall be removed without the permission of the vehicle owner, except upon the issuance of a repossession judgment, upon repossession under s. 425.206 or upon formal complaint and a citation for illegal parking issued by a traffic or police officer.

SECTION 11. 421.301 (5) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

421.301 (5) (c) Any finance charge that is paid separately by the customer or withheld by the creditor as described in sub. (36), if the total amount of all finance charges for the transaction that are paid separately or withheld is not greater than one—half of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the transaction.)

SECTION 12. 421.301 (29) of the statutes is amended to read:

421.301 (29) "Other than open-end credit" means consumer credit other than an open-end credit plan itself, or other than consumer credit transactions pursuant to an open-end credit plan, and includes precomputed transactions described in sub. 135) (a).

SECTION 13. 421.301(35) of the statutes is renumbered 421.301(35) (intro.) and amended to read:

421.301 (35) (intro.)	"Precomputed" with respect to a consumer credit
transaction means a consu	mer credit transaction, other than a motor vehicle
consumer lease, that satisfie	es any of the following:

(a) Is a transaction in which debt is expressed as a single sum comprised of the amount financed and the finance charge computed in advance.

SECTION 14. 421.301 (35) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

SECTION 15. 421.301-(36) of the statutes is amended to read:

421.301(35)(b) Is a transaction in which a prepaid finance charge is assessed.

421.301 (36) "Prepaid finance charge" means any finance charge paid separately, in cash or otherwise, directly or indirectly to the creditor or with the creditor's knowledge to another person or withheld by the creditor from the proceeds of the credit extended if the total amount of all finance charges for the transaction that are paid separately or withheld is greater than one half of the total scheduled.

finance charge applicable to the transaction.

SECTION 16. 422.202 (2m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

422.202 (2m) (a) A creditor may charge, collect and receive other fees and charges, in addition to the finance charge authorized under s. 422.201, that are agreed upon by the creditor and the customer. These other fees and charges may include loan origination fees. loan administration fees. periodic membership fees, cash advance fees, charges for exceeding a designated credit limit, charges for late payments, charges for providing copies of documents and charges for the return of a dishonored check or other payment instrument.

SECTION 17. 422.209 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

422.209 (1) Except as provided in sub. (1m), upon Upon prepayment in full of the unpaid balance of a precomputed consumer credit transaction, refinancing or

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Ant 15 described in 5.421.301 (36) (b) V

consolidation, an amount not less than the unearned portion of the finance charge 1 (that portion of calculated according to this section, together withlany prepaid finance charge, shall 2 Plain text ? (3)be rebated to the customer If Notwithstanding sub. (2), a finance charge that is paid separately by the customer or withheld by the creditor as described in s. 421.301 (36) 4) is fully earned at the time that the consumer credit transaction is made and need not rebate upon prepayment if the total amount of all finance charges 6 beincluded in any 7 for the transaction that are paid separately or withhold is not greater than one hal 8of the total scheduled finance charge applicable to the transaction. In addition of the total of all rebates, refunds and credits to be paid to the customer under chs. 421 to 10 427 is less than \$1, no rebate need be made. **SECTION** 18. 422.209 (1m) (a) of the statutes is repealed. 11 12 SECTION 19. 422.209 (lm) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 422.209 (lg) and amended to read: 13 14 422.209 (lg) Notwithstanding par. (a) s. 422.202 (2m), if a merchant retains 15 any portion of a loan administration fee charged on a loan that is prepaid from the proceeds of a new loan made by the same merchant within 6 months after the prior 16 loan, then the merchant shall reduce any loan administration fee on the new loan by 17 the amount of the loan administration fee on the prior loan that was retained by the 18 19 merchant. **SECTION** 20. 422.209 (2) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read: 20 21 422.209 (2) (a) 3. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount financed 22 is less than \$5,000, which have initial terms of less than 37 months and which are entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before the effective date of this 23 subdivision . . . [revisor inserts date]. 24

SECTION 21. 422.209 (2) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

422.209 (2) (c) 2. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount finance
is \$5,000 or more and which are entered into on or after August 1, 1987, and before
the effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date].
SECT-TON 22. 422.209 (2) (c) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:
422.209 (2) (c) 3. Consumer credit transactions in which the amount finance
is less than \$5,000, which have initial terms of 37 months or more and which are
entered into on or after August 1, 1987 <u>, and before the effective date of thi</u>
subdivision [revisor inserts datel.
SECTION 23. 422.209 (2) (c) 4. of the statutes is created to read:
422.209 (2) (c) 4. Consumer credit transactions entered into on or after the
effective date of this subdivision [revisor inserts date].
SECTION 24. 425.206 (1) and (2) of the statutes are repealed and recreated to
read:
425.206 (1) At any time after default and the expiration of the period for cure
of default a merchant may take possession of collateral or goods subject to a consume
lease without legal process only if the merchant satisfies all of the following:
(a) Takes possession without entering into a dwelling used by the customer a
a residence.
(b) Takes possession without committing a breach of the peace.
(2) This section shall not limit the authority of a merchant to take possession
of collateral or goods pursuant to a judgment in a proceeding under s. 425.205 or
425.203 (2), pursuant to s. 425.207 (2), or pursuant to the voluntary surrender of
collateral or goods by a customer.
(END)

1999-2000 DRAFTING INSERT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0827/2ins **RJM:...:..**

INSERT ANALYSIS

This bill also expands the definition of "prepaid finance charge" to include any expressly authorized additional charge that is greater than one-half of the total scheduled finance charge or interest applicable to a transaction or loan. This bill specifies that, upon prepayment of a transaction or loan, the creditor must rebate any expressly authorized additional charge that qualifies as a prepaid finance charge.

Read to - et.

(5-2)
4 500 #. CR. 138.09 (7) (a) .Irn.
9 138.09 (7) (a) Im. "Prepaid Sinance charge" means the total
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4 SEC # CR. 138.09 (7) (am) are only included in the principal of this section, (principal)
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STATE OF WISCONSIN -LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU-LEGAL SECTION (608-266-3561)

(7-15)
Additional charges permitted by s. 422.202, if the
Additional charges permitted by s. 422.202 if the Total amount of all charges assessed under s. 422.202
for a transaction is not greater than one half of the
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SEC#. RA; 421.301(36); 421.301(36) (Intro.):	***************************************
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SEC. Ff. CR. 421.301 (36) (b):	
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DRAFTER'S NOTE FROMTHE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0827/4dn RJM:jlg:kjf

Please review the linft carefull and let me ionowif the

- 1. With the permission of your office, I completed the attached redraft upon the request of Walt Stewart. I received three faxes from Walt Stewart requesting various changes and additions to the original draft and I have attempted to incorporate the intent of those changes and additions into this draft. Whis draft is not consistent with your intent, please let me know.
- Walt Stewart requested an amendment to the definition of the term 2. "precomputed." This amendment resulted in a need to amend the definition of the phrase "other than open-end credit" in order to preserve the current meaning. Please review this change and let me know if it is not consistent with your intent. See proposed s. 421.301 (29).
- 3. This bill makes changes to ch. 138 in order to maintain consistency between the consumer act and the licensed lender law. Please let me know if you do not intend to make these changes to ch. 138.

4. Under the proposed changes to the licensed lender law and the consumer act. certain amounts of prepaid interest or finance charges are not subject to the provisions requiring a rebate upon prepayment of a loan-or transaction. See proposed s. 138.09 (7) (gt), for example. Do you intend to make a similar change to s. 138.052 (3), regarding the prepayment of a residential mortgage loan? If so, please let me know.

なる。Walt Stewart requested that s. 422.202 (2m), stats., be amended to specify that a fee collected under that subsection is not subject to rebate upon prepayment. However, this change is unnecessary and I did not include it. Section 422.209, stats., requires a rebate of unearned finance charges upon prepayment. The definition of the term "finance charge" in s. 421.301 already excludes charges under s. 422.202.

IT Furthermore, it is my understanding that this draft actually about require the revolte of certain everyes assessed under 5.422.202 (2m). See proposed \$.422.209(1).

Please let me know if I have misunderstood the instructions.

Robert J. Marchant

CK G. I have provided a 1/2" Phone: (608) 261-4454
E-mail: Robert.Marchant@legis.state.wi.us distras a working copy of Thus, other than the distra, you should only have see thed a "AI." Please let me know it you have say youternso