HOUSE BILL NO. 244

INTRODUCED BY FABREGA, CHRISTIAENS

IN THE HOUSE

January 14, 1983	Introduced and referred to Committee on Business and Industry.
January 25, 1983	Committee recommend bill do pass as amended. Report adopted.
January 26, 1983	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
January 27, 1983	Second reading, do pass.
January 28, 1983	Considered correctly engrossed.
January 29, 1983	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to Senate.
IN THE SENATE	
January 31, 1983	Introduced and referred to Committee on Business and Industry.
March 4, 1983	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
March 7, 1983	Second reading, concurred in.
March 9, 1983	Third reading, concurred in. Ayes, 49; Noes, 0.

IN THE HOUSE

March 9, 1983

Returned to House.

March 10, 1983

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

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1	House BILL NO.	244
2	INTRODUCED BY	when

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT LIMITING THE APPLICATION OF THE RULE OF T8THS METHOD OF COMPUTING 5 INTEREST AND REFUNDS ON PREPAYMENT TO LOANS AND RETAIL 6 7 INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS MADE FOR A TIME PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 61 MONTHS: AMENDING SECTIONS 31-1-242 AND 32-5-301. MCA: AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN 10 APPLICABILITY CLAUSE-"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 31-1-242, MCA, is amended to read: *31-1-242. Refunds on prepayment. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any retail installment contract to the contrary, any buyer may prepay in full, at any time before maturity, the debt of any retail installment contract and in so paying such debt shall receive a refund credit thereon for such anticipation of payments.

12) In a contract where the period of the contract does not exceed 61 months, the The amount of such refund shall represent at least as great a proportion of the finance charge as the sum of the monthly time balances beginning I month after prepayment is made bears to the sum of all the monthly time balances under the schedule of . 1 payment in the contract. Where the amount of credit is less than \$1, no refund need be made."

Section 2. Section 32-5-301, MCA, is amended to read: *32-5-301. Charges, refunds, penalties, filing fees. (1) Every licensee hereunder may contract for and receive on any loan of money not exceeding \$1,000 in principal amount:

7 (a) charges at rates not in excess of \$20 per year per \$100 on that part of the principal amount of the loan not exceeding \$500:

10 (b) \$16 per year per \$100 on that part of the 11 principal amount of the loan exceeding \$500 but not 12 exceeding \$1,000.

13 (2) The holder of a supplementary license may contract 14 for and receive charges at rates authorized for licensees in subsection (1) for the first \$1,000 of the principal amount 15 16 of any loan and may contract for and receive charges at rates not in excess of \$12 per year per \$100 on that part of 17 the principal amount of any loan exceeding \$1,000 but not 18 19 exceeding \$7.500.

20 (3) Charges in (1) and (2) shall be computed at the 21 applicable rates on the full, original principal amount of 22 the loan from the date of the loan to the due date of the 23 final scheduled installment irrespective of the fact that 24 the loan is payable in installments. Said charges shall be added to the principal of the loan and shall not be 25

discounted or deducted therefrom or paid or received at the time the loan is made. For the purpose of computing charges for a fraction of a month, a day shall be considered one-thirtieth of a month.

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- (4) On loans of \$90 or less a licensee may charge, in lieu of charges specified in (1) of this section, not in excess of \$1 for each \$5 of cash or credit advanced to the borrower up to the amount of \$90. A period of at least 15 days must be allowed for the repayment of each \$5 cash or credit advanced. Such charges cannot be assessed by any subterfuge or device on any loam over \$90 or on any balance of \$90 or less when the original loan was greater than \$90.
- (5) When any loan contract, new loam, renewal, or otherwisey for a period of not more than 61 months is paid in full by cash I month or more before the final installment date, the licensee shall refund or credit the borrower with that portion of the total charges which shall be due the borrower as determined by schedules prepared under the rule of 78ths or sum of the digits principle as follows: the amount of the refund or credit shall be as great a proportion of the total charges originally contracted for as the sum of the consecutive monthly balances of the contract scheduled to follow the date of prepayment bears to the sum of all the consecutive monthly balances of the contract. both sums to be determined according to the payment schedule

originally contracted for-1

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- [6] If the contract so provides, the additional charge 2 3 for any amount past due according to the original terms of the contract, whether by reason of default or extension 4 agreement, may be 5% of the amount past due, and said amount 6 may be charged once and no more.
 - (7) (a) The licensee may include in the principal amount of any loan the actual fees paid a public official or agency of the state for filing, recording, or releasing any instrument securing the loan.
- (b) The licensee may include in the principal amount 12 of any loan bona fide charges related to real estate security and paid to third parties, including:
- (i) fees or premiums for title examination, title 14 15 insurance, or similar purposes, including survey;
- (ii) fees for preparation of a deed, settlement 16 17 statement, or other documents:
- (iii) fees for notarizing deeds and other documents; 18
- (iv) appraisal fees; 19
 - (v) fees for credit reports; and
- (vi) fees paid to a trustee for release of a trust 21 22 deed.
 - (8) No further or other charges shall be directly or indirectly contracted for or received by any licensee except those specifically authorized by this chapter. No licensee

shall divide into separate parts any contract made for the purpose of or with the effect of obtaining charges in excess of those authorized by this chapter. All balances due to a licensee from any person as a borrower or as an endorser, guarantor, or surety for any borrower or otherwise or due from any husband or wife, jointly or severally, shall be considered a part of any loan being made by a licensee to such person for the purpose of computing interest or charges. If any amount in excess of the charges permitted by this chapter is charged, contracted for, and received, except as the result of an accidental and bona fide error of computation, the licensee shall have no right to collect or receive any charges.

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- (9) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 in principal amount, a licensee may not make charges as provided in subsections (1) and (2) but shall make charges in accordance with the provisions of this subsection through subsection (12).
- (10) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 but not exceeding \$25,000 in principal amount, a licensee may contract and receive charges at a rate not in excess of 2% per month on the principal amount as follows:
- (a) Charges shall be computed on unpaid balances of the principal amount outstanding from time to time for the actual time outstanding. Each payment shall be applied

first to accumulated charges and the remainder of the payment applied to the unpaid principal balance, except that if the amount of the payment is insufficient to pay the accumulated charges, unpaid charges continue to accumulate to be paid from the proceeds of subsequent payments and are not added to the principal balance.

- 7 (b) Charges made under "this subsection may not be payable in advance or compounded. However, if part or all of 8 9 the consideration for a new loan contract is the unpaid 10 principal balance of a prior loan, the principal amount 11 payable under such new loan contract may include any unpaid 12 charges which have accrued. The resulting loan contract is a 13 new and separate loan transaction for all purposes. The principal balance of a prior loan on which charges have been 14 15 made pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) is the balance due after refund or credit is given to the borrower pursuant to 16 subsection (5). 17
- 18 (11) For purposes of computing charges for a fraction
 19 of a month, a day is considered one-thirtieth of a month.
- 20 (12) The provisions of subsections (5) and (6) do not 21 apply to loans made under subsections (9) through (11).
- 22 (13) The amounts of \$90, \$500, \$1,000, \$7,500, and \$25,000 in subsections (1), (2), (4), (9), and (10) are \$25 subject to change pursuant to the provisions of 32-5-104 on adjustment of dollar amounts.**

NEW SECTIONs Section 3. Limitation of rule of 78ths.

The sum of the monthly time balances method of computing

interest or refunds on prepayment, which is also known as

the rule of 78ths, may not be used in any loan agreement or

retail installment contract unless the term of the loan or

contract boes not exceed 61 months.

7 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date. This act is 8 effective on passage and approval.

9 NEW SECTIONs Section 5. Applicability. This act
10 applies only to loan agreements and installment contracts
11 entered into after the effective date of this act.

-End-

HB 0244/02

HB 0244/02

Approved by Committee on Business and Industry

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 244
2	INTRODUCED BY FABREGA: CHRISTIAENS
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4	A BILL FUR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT LIMITING THE
5	APPLICATION OF THE RULE OF 78THS METHOD OF COMPUTING
6	INTEREST AND REFUNDS ON PREPAYMENT TO LOANS AND RETAIN
7	INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS MADE FOR A TIME PERIOD OF NOT MORE
8	THAN 61 MONTHS; PROVIDING FOR REFUND OR CREDIT ON PREPAYHEN
Ģ	ON LOANS OR CONTRACTS EXCEEDING 61 MONTHS: AMENDING SECTIONS
10	31-1-242 AND 32-5-301, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE
11	EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY CLAUSE.
12	
13	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
14	Section 1. Section 31-1-242; HCA, is amended to read:
15	#31-1-242. Refunds on prepayment. (1) Notwithstanding
16	the provisions of any retail installment contract to the
17	contrary, any buyer may prepay in full, at any time before
18	maturity, the debt of any retail installment contract and in
19	so paying such debt shall receive a refund credit thereon
20	for such anticipation of payments.
21	(2) In a contract where the pariod of the contract
22	does not exceed 61 months, the #he amount of such refund
23	shall represent at least as great a proportion of the
24	finance charge as the sum of the monthly time balances
25	beginning 1 month after prepayment is made bears to the sum

of all the monthly time balances under the schedule of payment in the contract. Where the amount of credit is less than \$1. no refund need be made. 3 (3) IN ANY CONTRACT WHERE THE PERIOD OF THE CONTRACT EXCEEDS 61 MONIHS. THE AMOUNT OF SUCH REFUND IS THE PORTION OF THE ORIGINAL FINANCE CHARGE THAT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL 7 FULLY UNEXPIRED MONTHS IN THE CONTRACT AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED OR IF DEFERRED. AS DEFERRED. FOLLOWING THE DATE OF PREPAYMENT. FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE APPLICABLE CHARGE IS THE CHARGE THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EARNED FOR THAT PERIOD. IE THE 10 11 CONTRACT WERE NOT PRECOMPUTED. BY APPLYING TO THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL BALANCE. ACCORDING TO THE ACTUARIAL METHOD. THE 12 13 ANNUAL PERCENIAGE RATE DISCLOSED PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAW. 14 BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL PAYMENTS WERE MADE AS 15 ORIGINALLY_SCHEDULED." 16 Section 2. Section 32-5-301, MCA. is amended to read: 17 *32-5-301. Charges, refunds, penalties, filing fees. 18 (1) Every licensee hereunder may contract for and receive on 19 any loan of money not exceeding \$1,000 in principal amount: 20 (a) charges at rates not in excess of \$20 per year per 21 \$100 on that part of the principal amount of the loan not 22 exceeding \$500; 23 (b) \$16 per year per \$100 on that part of the

principal amount of the loan exceeding \$500 but not

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exceeding \$1,000.

(2) The nolder of a supplementary license may contract for and receive charges at rates authorized for licensees in subsection (1) for the first \$1,000 of the principal amount of any loan and may contract for and receive charges at rates not in excess of \$12 per year per \$100 on that part of the principal amount of any loan exceeding \$1,000 but not exceeding \$7,500.

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- (3) Charges in (1) and (2) shall be computed at the applicable rates on the full, original principal amount of the loan from the date of the loan to the due date of the final scheduled installment irrespective of the fact that the loan is payable in installments. Said charges shall be added to the principal of the loan and shall not be discounted or deducted therefrom or paid or received at the time the loan is made. For the purpose of computing charges for a fraction of a month, a day shall be considered one-thirtieth of a month.
- (4) On loans of \$90 or less a licensee may charge: in lieu of charges specified in (1) of this section, not in excess of \$1 for each \$5 of cash or credit advanced to the porrower up to the amount of \$90. A period of at least 15 days must be allowed for the repayment of each \$5 cash or credit advanced. Such charges cannot be assessed by any subterfuge or device on any loam over \$90 or on any balance of \$90 or less when the original loan was greater than \$90.

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1 (5) (A) When any loan contract, new loan, renewal, or otherwisey for a period of not more than 61 months is paid 2 in full by cash 1 month or more before the final installment date. the licensee shall refund or credit the borrower with that portion of the total charges which shall be due the borrower as determined by schedules prepared under the rule of 78ths or sum of the digits principle as follows: the 7 amount of the refund or credit shall be as great a proportion of the total charges originally contracted for as the sum of the consecutive monthly balances of the contract 10 11 scheduled to follow the date of prepayment bears to the sum of all the consecutive monthly balances of the contract, 12 13 both sums to be determined according to the payment schedule 14 originally contracted for.

15 (8) WHEN ANY LOAN CONTRACT. NEW LOAN, RENEWAL, OR OTHERNISE. FOR A PERIOD OF MORE THAN 61 MONTHS. IS PAID IN FULL BY CASH ONE HONTH OR MORE BEFORE THE FINAL INSTALLMENT DATE - THE LICENSEE SHALL REFUND OR CREOIL THE BORROWER WITH THAT PORTION OF THE TOTAL CHARGES THAT IS DUE THE BORROWER THAT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL FULLY UNEXPIRED MONTHS IN THE CONTRACT AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED OR IE DEFERRED. AS DEFERRED. FOLLOWING THE DATE OF PREPAYMENT. FOR THIS PURPOSE THE APPLICABLE CHARGE IS THE CHARGE WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN EARNED FOR THAT CONTRACT. IF CHARGES HAD NOT BEEN PRECOMPUTED. BY APPLYING TO THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL BALANCE. BY

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HB 244

HB 244

- 1 INE ACTUARIAL METHOD. THE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE DISCLOSED
- 2 PURSUANT IO FEGERAL LAW BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL
- 3 PAYMENTS WERE MADE AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED. FOR ALL LOANS
- IHAI MAY BE SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION. CHARGES ARE COMPUTED
- 5 INITIALLY IN THE SAME MANNER USED TO DETERMINE THE ANNUAL
- PERCENIAGE_RATE.

- 7 (6) If the contract so provides, the additional charge
- for any amount past due according to the original terms of
 - the contract, whether by reason of default or extension
- 3.0 agreement, may be 5% of the amount past due, and said amount
- 11 may be charged once and no more.
- 12 (7) (a) The licensee may include in the principal
- 13 amount of any loan the actual fees paid a public official or
- 14 agency of the state for filing, recording, or releasing any
- 15 instrument securing the loan.
- 16 (b) The licensee may include in the principal amount
 - of any loan bona fide charges related to real estate
- 18 security and paid to third parties, including:
- 19 (i) fees or premiums for title examination, title
- 20 insurance, or similar purposes, including survey:
- 21 (ii) fees for preparation of a deed, settlement
- 22 statement, or other documents:
- 23 (iii) fees for notarizing deeds and other documents;
- 24 (iv) appraisal fees:
- 25 (v) fees for credit reports; and

- 1 (vi) fees paid to a trustee for release of a trust 2 deed.
- 3 (8) No further or other charges shall be directly or indirectly contracted for or received by any licensee except 5 those specifically authorized by this chapter. No licensee shall divide into separate parts any contract made for the purpose of or with the effect of obtaining charges in excess 7 of those authorized by this chapter. All balances due to a licensee from any person as a borrower or as an endorser, 10 quarantor, or surety for any borrower or otherwise or due from any husband or wife, jointly or severally, shall be 11 considered a part of any loan being made by a licensee to 12 such person for the purpose of computing interest or 13 charges. If any amount in excess of the charges permitted by 14 this chapter is charged, contracted for, and received, except as the result of an accidental and bona fide error of computation, the licensee shall have no right to collect or receive any charges.
 - (9) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 in principal amount, a licensee may not make charges as provided in subsections (1) and (2) but shall make charges in accordance with the provisions of this subsection through subsection (12).
- 24 (10) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 but not 25 exceeding \$25,000 in principal amount, a licensee may

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contract and receive charges at a rate not in excess of 2% per month on the principal amount as follows:

- (a) Charges shall be computed on unpaid balances of the principal amount outstanding from time to time for the actual time outstanding. Each payment shall be applied first to accumulated charges and the remainder of the payment applied to the unpaid principal balance, except that if the amount of the payment is insufficient to pay the accumulated charges, unpaid charges continue to accumulate to be paid from the proceeds of subsequent payments and are not added to the principal balance.
- (b) Charges made under this subsection may not be payable in advance or compounded. However, if part or all of the consideration for a new loan contract is the unpaid principal balance of a prior loan, the principal amount payable under such new loan contract may include any unpaid charges which have accrued. The resulting loan contract is a new and separate loan transaction for all purposes. The principal balance of a prior loan on which charges have been made pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) is the balance due after refund or credit is given to the borrower pursuant to subsection (5).
- (11) For purposes of computing charges for a fraction of a month, a day is considered one-thirtieth of a month.
 - (12) The provisions of subsections (5) and (6) do not

1 apply to loans made under subsections (9) through (11).

(13) The amounts of \$90, \$500, \$1,000, \$7,500, and \$25,000 in subsections (1), (2), (4), (9), and (10) are subject to change pursuant to the provisions of 32-5-104 on adjustment of dollar amounts.**

NEW_SECTION. Section 3. Limitation of rule of 78ths. The sum of the monthly time balances method of computing interest or refunds on prepayment, which is also known as the rule of 78ths, may not be used in any loan agreement or retail installment contract unless the term of the loan or contract does not exceed 61 months.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 4. Effective date. This act is 13 effective on passage and approval.

NEW_SECTION. Section 5. Applicability. This act applies only to loan agreements and installment contracts entered into after the effective date of this act.

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HB 244

HB 0244/02

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 244
2	INTRODUCED BY FABREGA, CHRISTIAENS
3	***
4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT LIMITING THE
5	APPLICATION OF THE RULE OF 78THS METHOD OF COMPUTING
6	INTEREST AND REFUNDS ON PREPAYMENT TO LOAMS AND RETAIL
7	INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS MADE FOR A TIME PERIOD OF NOT MORE
8	THAN 61 MONTHS; PROVIDING FOR REFUND OR CREDIT ON PREPAYMENT
9	QN_LQANS_OR_CONTRACTS_EXCEEDING_61_MONTHS: AMENDING SECTIONS
10	31-1-242 AND 32-5-301, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE
11	EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY CLAUSE."
12	
13	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
14	Section 1. Section 31-1-242, MCA, is amended to read:
15	*31-1-242. Refunds on prepayment. (1) Notwithstanding
16	the provisions of any retail installment contract to the
17	contrary, any buyer may prepay in full, at any time before
18	maturity, the debt of any retail installment contract and in
19	so paying such debt shall receive a refund credit thereon
20	for such anticipation of payments.
21	(2) In a contract where the period of the contract
22	does not exceed 61 months: the The amount of such refund
23	shall represent at least as great a proportion of the
24	finance charge as the sum of the monthly time balances
25	beginning I month after prepayment is made bears to the sum

1	of all the monthly time balances under the schedule of
2	payment in the contract. Where the amount of credit is less
3	than \$1, no refund need be made.
4	(3) IN ANY CONTRACT WHERE THE PERIOD OF THE CONTRACT
5	EXCEEDS 61 MONINS. THE AMOUNT OF SUCH REFUND IS INC. PORTION
6	DE THE ORIGINAL FINANCE CHARGE THAT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL
7	EULLY UNEXPIRED MONTHS IN THE CONTRACT AS ORIGINALLY
8	SCHEOULED OR IF DEFERRED. AS DEFERRED. FOLLOWING THE DATE OF
9	PREPAYMENT. FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE APPLICABLE CHARGE IS THE
10	CHARGE THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EARNED FOR THAT PERIOD. IF THE
11	CONTRACT WERE NOT PRECOMPUTED. BY APPLYING TO THE UNPAID
12	PRINCIPAL BALANCE: ACCORDING TO THE ACTUARIAL HETHOD: THE
13	ANNUAL PERCENTAGE BATE DISCLOSED PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAWS
14	BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL PAYMENTS WERE MADE AS
15	QBIGINALLY_SCHEDULED = "
6	Section 2. Section 32-5-301, MCA, is amended to read:
7	. *32-5-301. Charges, refunds, penalties, filing fees.
18	(1) Every licensee hereunder may contract for and receive on
9	any loan of money not exceeding \$1,000 in principal amount:
0	(a) charges at rates not in excess of \$20 per year per

\$100 on that part of the principal amount of the loan not

principal amount of the loan exceeding \$500 but not

(b) \$16 per year per \$100 on that part of the

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exceeding \$500;

exceeding \$1,000.

THIRD READING

-2-HB 244

(2) The holder of a supplementary license may contract for and receive charges at rates authorized for licensees in subsection (1) for the first \$1,000 of the principal amount of any loan and may contract for and receive charges at rates not in excess of \$12 per year per \$100 on that part of the principal amount of any loan exceeding \$1,000 but not exceeding \$7,500.

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- (3) Charges in (1) and (2) shall be computed at the applicable rates on the full- priginal principal amount of the loan from the date of the loan to the due date of the final scheduled installment irrespective of the fact that the loan is payable in installments. Said charges shall be added to the principal of the loan and shall not be discounted or deducted therefrom or paid or received at the time the loan is made. For the purpose of computing charges for a fraction of a month, a day shall be considered one-thirtieth of a wonth.
- (4) On loans of \$90 or less a licensee may charge, in lieu of charges specified in (1) of this section, not in excess of \$1 for each \$5 of cash or credit advanced to the porrower up to the amount of \$90. A period of at least 15 days must be allowed for the repayment of each \$5 cash or credit advanced. Such charges cannot be assessed by any subterfuge or device on any loan over \$90 or on any balance of \$90 or less when the original loan was greater than \$90.

(5) (A) When any loan contract, new loan; renewal, or 1 2 otherwise, for a period of not sore than 61 sonths is paid in full by cash 1 month or more before the final installment date. the licensee shall refund or credit the borrower with that portion of the total charges which shall be due the borrower as determined by schedules prepared under the rule 7 of 78ths or sum of the digits principle as follows: the amount of the refund or credit shall be as great a proportion of the total charges originally contracted for as 9 the sum of the consecutive monthly balances of the contract 10 scheduled to follow the date of prepayment bears to the sum 11 12 of all the consecutive monthly balances of the contract. 13 both sums to be determined according to the payment schedule originally contracted for.

18) WHEN ANY LOAN CONTRACT, NEW LOAN, BENEVAL, OR OTHERNISE. FOR A PERIOD OF MORE THAN 61 MONTHS. IS PAID IN FULL BY CASH ONE MONTH OR MORE BEFORE THE FINAL INSTALLMENT DATE . THE LICENSEE SHALL REFUND OR CREDIT THE BORROWER .. WITH THAT PORTION OF THE TOTAL CHARGES THAT IS DUE THE BORROWER THAT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL FULLY UNEXPIRED MONTHS IN THE CONTRACT AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED OR IF DEFERRED. AS DEFERRED. FOLLOWING THE DATE OF PREPAYMENT. FOR THIS PURPOSE THE APPLICABLE CHARGE IS THE CHARGE WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN EARNED FOR THAT CONTRACT. IF CHARGES HAD NOT BEEN PRECOMPUTED. BY APPLYING TO THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL BALANCE. BY

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- 1 THE ACTUARIAL METHOD. THE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE DISCLOSED
 - PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAW BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL
- 3 PAYMENTS WERE MADE AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED EOR ALL LOANS
- 4 THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO THIS SECTIONS CHARGES ARE COMPUTED
- 5 INITIALLY IN THE SAME MANNER USED TO DETERMINE THE ANNUAL
 - PERCENIAGE_RATE.

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- 7 (6) If the contract so provides, the additional charge
 8 for any amount past due according to the original terms of
 9 the contract, whether by reason of default or extension
 10 agreement, may be 5% of the amount past due, and said amount
 11 may be charged once and no more.
 - (7) (a) The licensee may include in the principal amount of any loan the actual fees paid a public official or agency of the state for filing, recording, or releasing any instrument securing the loan.
 - (b) The licensee may include in the principal amount of any loan bona fide charges related to real estate security and paid to third parties, including:
 - (i) fees or premiums for title examination, title insurance, or similar purposes, including survey;
- 21 (ii) fees for preparation of a deed, settlement 22 statement, or other documents;
- 23 (iii) fees for notarizing deeds and other documents;
- 24 (iv) appraisal fees;
- 25 (v) fees for credit reports; and

- 1 (vi) fees paid to a trustee for release of a trust 2 deed.
 - (8) No further or other charges shall be directly or indirectly contracted for or received by any licensee except those specifically authorized by this chapter. No licensee shall divide into separate parts any contract made for the purpose of or with the effect of obtaining charges in excess of those authorized by this chapter. All balances due to a licensee from any person as a borrower or as an endorser, quarantor, or surety for any borrower or otherwise or due from any husband or wife, jointly or severally, shall be considered a part of any loan being made by a licensee to such person for the purpose of computing interest or charges. If any amount in excess of the charges permitted by this chapter is charged, contracted for, and received, except as the result of an accidental and bona fide error of computation, the licensee shall have no right to collect or receive any charges.
 - (9) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 in principal amount, a licensee may not make charges as provided in subsections (1) and (2) but shall make charges in accordance with the provisions of this subsection through subsection (12).
- 24 (10) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 but not 25 exceeding \$25,000 in principal amount, a licensee may

contract and receive charges at a rate not in excess of 2% per month on the principal amount as follows:

- (a) Charges shall be computed on unpaid balances of the principal amount outstanding from time to time for the actual time outstanding. Each payment shall be applied first to accumulated charges and the remainder of the payment applied to the unpaid principal balance, except that if the amount of the payment is insufficient to pay the accumulated charges, unpaid charges continue to accumulate to be paid from the proceeds of subsequent payments and are not added to the principal balance.
- (b) Charges made under this subsection may not be payable in advance or compounded. However, if part or all of the consideration for a new loan 'contract is the unpaid principal balance of a prior loan, the principal amount payable under such new loan contract may include any unpaid charges which have accrued. The resulting loan contract is a new and separate loan transaction for all purposes. The principal balance of a prior loan on which charges have been made pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) is the balance due after refund or credit is given to the borrower pursuant to subsection (5).
- (11) For purposes of computing charges for a fraction of a month, a day is considered one-thirtieth of a month.
 - (12) The provisions of subsections (5) and (6) do not

apply to loans made under subsections (9) through (11).

2 (13) The amounts of \$90. \$500. \$1,000. \$7,500. and 3 \$25,000 in subsections (1). (2). (4). (9). and (10) are 4 subject to change pursuant to the provisions of 32-5-104 on

5 adjustment of dollar amounts.

6 NEW SECTIONs Section 3. Limitation of rule of 78ths.
7 The sum of the monthly time balances method of computing
8 interest or refunds on prepayment, which is also known as
9 the rule of 78ths, may not be used in any loan agreement or
10 retail installment contract unless the term of the loan or
11 contract does not exceed 61 months.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 4. Effective date. This act is 13 effective on passage and approval.

NEW SECTION. Section 5. Applicability. This act applies only to loan agreements and installment contracts entered into after the effective date of this act.

-End-

48th Legislature HB 0244/02 HB 0244/02

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 244
2	INTRODUCED BY FABREGA, CHRISTIAENS
3	
4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT LIMITING THE
5	APPLICATION OF THE RULE OF 78THS METHOD OF COMPUTING
6	INTEREST AND REFUNDS ON PREPAYMENT TO LOANS AND RETAIL
7	INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS MADE FOR A TIME PERIOD OF NOT MORE
8	THAN 61 MONTHS; PROVIDING FOR REFUND OR CREDIT ON PREPAYMENT
9	ON_LOAMS_OR_CONTRACTS_EXCEEDING_61_HONIHS: AMENDING SECTIONS
10	31-1-242 AND 32-5-301, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE
11	EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY CLAUSE.*
12	
13	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
14	Section 1. Section 31-1-242, MCA, is amended to read:
15	#31-1-242. Refunds on prepayment. (1) Notwithstanding
16	the provisions of any retail installment contract to the
17	contrary, any buyer may prepay in full, at any time before
18	maturity, the debt of any retail installment contract and in
19	so paying such debt shall receive a refund credit thereon
20	for such anticipation of payments.
21	[2] In a contract where the period of the contract
22	does not exceed 61 months: the The amount of such refund
23	shall represent at least as great a proportion of the
24	finance charge as the sum of the monthly time balances

beginning 1 month after prepayment is made bears to the sum

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payment in the contract. Where the amount of credit is less than \$1. no refund need be made. (3) IN ANY CONTRACT WHERE THE PERIOD OF THE CONTRACT EXCEEDS 61 MONTHS. THE AMOUNT DE SUCH REFUND IS THE PORTION DE THE ORIGINAL EINANCE CHARGE THAT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL FULLY UNEXPIRED MONTHS IN THE CONTRACT AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED OR IF DEFERRED. AS DEFERRED. FOLLOWING THE DATE OF PREPAYMENT. FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE APPLICABLE CHARGE IS THE 10 CHARGE THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EARNED FOR THAT PERIOD: IF THE 11 CONTRACT WERE NOT PRECOMPUTED. BY APPLYING TO THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL BALANCE. ACCORDING TO THE ACTUARIAL METHOD. THE 13 ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE DISCLOSED PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAW. 14 A PART OF THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL PART OF THE OF TH 15 ORIGINALLY_SCHEDULED.** Section 2. Section 32-5-301, MCA. is amended to read: 16 17 "32-5-301. Charges, refunds, penalties, filing fees. 18 (1) Every licensee hereunder may contract for and receive on 19 any loan of money not exceeding \$1,000 in principal amount: 20 (a) charges at rates not in excess of \$20 per year per 21 \$100 on that part of the principal amount of the loan not 22 exceeding \$500; 23 (b) \$16 per year per \$100 on that part of the 24 principal amount of the loan exceeding \$500 but not exceeding \$1,000.

of all the monthly time balances under the schedule of

(2) The holder of a supplementary license may contract for and receive charges at rates authorized for licensees in subsection (1) for the first \$1,000 of the principal amount of any loan and may contract for and receive charges at rates not in excess of \$12 per year per \$100 on that part of the principal amount of any loan exceeding \$1,000 but not exceeding \$7,500.

- (3) Charges in (1) and (2) shall be computed at the applicable rates on the full, original principal amount of the loan from the date of the loan to the due date of the final scheduled installment irrespective of the fact that the loan is payable in installments. Said charges shall be added to the principal of the loan and shall not be discounted or deducted therefrom or paid or received at the time the loan is made. For the purpose of computing charges for a fraction of a month, a day shall be considered one—trirtieth of a month.
- (4) On loans of \$90 or less a licensee may charge, in lieu of charges specified in (1) of this section, not in excess of \$1 for each \$5 of cash or credit advanced to the borrower up to the amount of \$90. A period of at least 15 days must be allowed for the repayment of each \$5 cash or credit advanced. Such charges cannot be assessed by any subterfuge or device on any loan over \$90 or on any balance of \$90 or less when the original loan was greater than \$90.

-3-

(5) (A) When any loan contract, new loan, renewal, or otherwise+ for a period of not more than 61 months is paid in full by cash 1 month or more before the final installment date, the licensee shall refund or credit the borrower with that portion of the total charges which shall be due the borrower as determined by schedules prepared under the rule of 78ths or sum of the digits principle as follows: the amount of the refund or credit shall be as great a proportion of the total charges originally contracted for as the sum of the consecutive monthly balances of the contract scheduled to follow the date of prepayment bears to the sum of all the consecutive monthly balances of the contract, both sums to be determined according to the payment schedule originally contracted for-

161 HHEN ANY LOAN CONTRACTS NEW LOANS RENEMALS OR OTHERHISES FOR A PERIOD OF HORE THAN 61 HONTHS IS PAID IN EULL BY CASH ONE HONTH OR HORE BEFORE THE FINAL INSTALLMENT DATES THE LICENSEE SHALL REFUND OR CREDIT THE BORROWER WITH THAT PORTION OF THE TOTAL CHARGES THAT IS DUE THE BORROWER THAT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL EULLY UNEXPIRED MONTHS IN THE CONTRACT AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED OR IF DEFERRED. AS DEFERRED FOLLOWING THE DATE OF PREPAYMENTS FOR THIS PURPOSE THE APPLICABLE CHARGE IS THE CHARGE WHICH HOULD HAVE BEEN EARNED FOR THAT CONTRACTS IF CHARGES HAD NOT BEEN PRECOMPUTEDS BY APPLYING TO THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL BALANCES BY

- 1 THE ACTUARIAL METHOD: THE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE DISCLOSED
- 2 PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAW BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL
- 3 PAYMENIS HERE MADE AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED. FOR ALL LOANS
- 4 IHAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION: CHARGES ARE COMPUTED
- 5 INITIALLY IN THE SAME MANNER USED TO DETERMINE THE ANNUAL
- 6 PERCENTAGE_RATE.
- 7 (6) If the contract so provides, the additional charge
- 8 for any amount past due according to the original terms of
- 9 the contract, whether by reason of default or extension
- 10 agreement, may be 5% of the amount past due, and said amount
- 11 may be charged once and no more.
- 12 (7) (a) The licensee may include in the principal
- 13 amount of any loan the actual fees paid a public official or
- 14 agency of the state for filling, recording, or releasing any
- 15 instrument securing the loan.
- 16 (b) The licensee may include in the principal amount
- 17 of any loan bona fide charges related to real estate
- 18 security and paid to third parties, including:
- 19 (i) fees or premiums for title examination, title
- 20 insurance, or similar purposes, including survey;
- 21 (ii) fees for preparation of a deed, settlement

-5-

- 22 statement, or other documents;
- 23 (iii) fees for notarizing deeds and other documents;
- 24 (iv) appraisal fees;
- 25 (v) fees for credit reports; and

- 3 (8) No further or other charges shall be directly or indiractly contracted for or received by any licensee except 5 those specifically authorized by this chapter. No licensee shall divide into separate parts any contract made for the purpose of or with the effect of obtaining charges in excess 7 of those authorized by this chapter. All balances due to a licensee from any person as a borrower or as an endorser, 9 10 guarantor, or surety for any borrower or otherwise or due 11 from any husband or wife, jointly or severally, shall be 12 considered a part of any loan being made by a licensee to such person for the purpose of computing interest or 13 14 charges. If any amount in excess of the charges permitted by this chapter is charged, contracted for, and received, 15 16 except as the result of an accidental and bona fide error of 17 computation, the licensee shall have no right to collect or 18 receive any charges.
- 19 (9) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 in principal
 20 amount, a licensee may not make charges as provided in
 21 subsections (1) and (2) but shall make charges in accordance
 22 with the provisions of this subsection through subsection
 23 (12).
- 24 (10) On any loan of money exceeding \$7,500 but not 25 exceeding \$25,000 in principal amount, a licensee may

contract and receive charges at a rate not in excess of 2% per month on the principal amount as follows:

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- (a) Charges shall be computed on unpaid balances of the principal amount outstanding from time to time for the actual time outstanding. Each payment shall be applied first to accumulated charges and the remainder of the payment applied to the unpaid principal balance, except that if the amount of the payment is insufficient to pay the accumulated charges, unpaid charges continue to accumulate to be paid from the proceeds of subsequent payments and are not added to the principal balance.
- (b) Charges made under this subsection may not be payable in advance or compounded. However, if part or all of the consideration for a new loan contract is the unpaid principal balance of a prior loan, the principal amount payable under such new loan contract may include any unpaid charges which have accrued. The resulting loan contract is a new and separate loan transaction for all purposes. The principal balance of a prior loan on which charges have been made pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) is the balance due after refund or credit is given to the borrower pursuant to subsection (5).
- (11) For purposes of computing charges for a fraction of a month, a day is considered one-thirtieth of a month.
 - (12) The provisions of subsections (5) and (6) do not

- 1 apply to loans made under subsections (9) through (11).
- 2 (13) The amounts of \$90, \$500, \$1,000, \$7,500, and
- 3 \$25,000 in subsections (1), (2), (4), (9), and (10) are
- 4 subject to change pursuant to the provisions of 32-5-104 on
- 5 adjustment of dollar amounts.**
- NEW SECTION. Section 3. Limitation of rule of 78ths.
- 7 The sum of the monthly time balances method of computing
- 8 interest or refunds on prepayment, which is also known as
- 9 the rule of 78ths, may not be used in any loan agreement or
- 10 retail installment contract unless the term of the loan or
- 11 contract does not exceed 61 months.
- 12 <u>NEW SECTION</u>. Section 4. Effective date. This act is
- 13 effective on passage and approval.
- 14 <u>NEW_SECTION</u> Section 5. Applicability. This act
- 15 applies only to loan agreements and installment contracts
- 16 entered into after the effective date of this act.

-End-

HB 244

HB 244