## SECOND REGULAR SESSION

## SENATE BILL NO. 835

## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CRAWFORD.

3810S.02I KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

## **AN ACT**

To repeal sections 408.035, 408.140, and 442.210, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to financial instruments.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 408.035, 408.140, and 442.210, RSMo,

- 2 are repealed and three new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to
- 3 be known as sections 408.035, 408.140, and 442.210, to read as
- 4 follows:
  - 408.035. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other
- 2 law to the contrary, it is lawful for the parties to agree
- 3 in writing to any rate of interest, fees, and other terms
- 4 and conditions in connection with any:
- 5 (1) Loan to a corporation, general partnership,
- 6 limited partnership or limited liability company;
- 7 (2) Extension of credit primarily for agricultural,
- 8 business, or commercial purposes;
- 9 (3) Real estate loan, other than residential real
- 10 estate loans [and loans of less than five thousand dollars
- 11 secured by real estate used for an agricultural activity]; or
- 12 (4) Loan of five thousand dollars or more secured
- 13 solely by certificates of stock, bonds, bills of exchange,
- 14 certificates of deposit, warehouse receipts, or bills of
- 15 lading pledged as collateral for the repayment of such loans.
  - 408.140. 1. No further or other charge or amount
- 2 whatsoever shall be directly or indirectly charged,

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

3 contracted for or received for interest, service charges or

- 4 other fees as an incident to any such extension of credit
- 5 except as provided and regulated by sections 367.100 to
- 6 367.200 and except:
- 7 (1) On loans for thirty days or longer which are other
- 8 than "open-end credit" as such term is defined in the
- 9 federal Consumer Credit Protection Act and regulations
- 10 thereunder, a fee, not to exceed ten percent of the
- 11 principal amount loaned not to exceed one hundred dollars
- 12 may be charged by the lender; however, no such fee shall be
- 13 permitted on any extension, refinance, restructure or
- 14 renewal of any such loan, unless any investigation is made
- 15 on the application to extend, refinance, restructure or
- 16 renew the loan;
- 17 (2) The lawful fees actually and necessarily paid out
- 18 by the lender to any public officer for filing, recording,
- 19 or releasing in any public office any instrument securing
- 20 the loan, and reasonable and bona fide third-party fees
- 21 incurred for remote or electronic filing, which fees may be
- 22 collected when the loan is made or at any time thereafter;
- 23 however, premiums for insurance in lieu of perfecting a
- 24 security interest required by the lender may be charged if
- 25 the premium does not exceed the fees which would otherwise
- 26 be payable;
- 27 (3) If the contract so provides, a charge for late
- 28 payment on each installment or minimum payment in default
- 29 for a period of not less than fifteen days in an amount not
- 30 to exceed five percent of each installment due or the
- 31 minimum payment due or fifteen dollars, whichever is
- 32 greater, not to exceed fifty dollars. If the contract so
- provides, a charge for late payment on each twenty-five

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dollars or less installment in default for a period of not less than fifteen days shall not exceed five dollars;

- 36 (4) If the contract so provides, a charge for late 37 payment for a single payment note in default for a period of 38 not less than fifteen days in an amount not to exceed five 39 percent of the payment due; provided that, the late charge 40 for a single payment note shall not exceed fifty dollars;
  - (5) Charges or premiums for insurance written in connection with any loan against loss of or damage to property or against liability arising out of ownership or use of property as provided in section 367.170; however, notwithstanding any other provision of law, with the consent of the borrower, such insurance may cover property all or part of which is pledged as security for the loan, and charges or premiums for insurance providing life, health, accident, or involuntary unemployment coverage;
- 50 (6) Reasonable towing costs and expenses of retaking, 51 holding, preparing for sale, and selling any personal 52 property in accordance with the uniform commercial code -53 secured transactions, sections 400.9-101 to 400.9-809;
  - (7) A reasonable service fee not to exceed the amount permitted under subdivision (2) of subsection 6 of section 570.120 for any check, draft, order, or like instrument that is returned unpaid by a financial institution, plus an amount equal to the actual fees charged by the financial institution for each check, draft, order, or like instrument returned unpaid;
  - (8) If the contract or promissory note, signed by the borrower, provides for attorney fees, and if it is necessary to bring suit, such attorney fees may not exceed fifteen percent of the amount due and payable under such contract or promissory note, together with any court costs assessed.

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66 The attorney fees shall only be applicable where the

67 contract or promissory note is referred for collection to an

68 attorney, and is not handled by a salaried employee of the

- 69 holder of the contract;
- 70 (9) If the open-end credit contract is tied to a
- 71 transaction account in a depository institution, such
- 72 account is in the institution's assets and such contract
- 73 provides for loans of thirty-one days or longer which are
- 74 "open-end credit", as such term is defined in the federal
- 75 Consumer Credit Protection Act and regulations thereunder,
- 76 the creditor may charge a credit advance fee of up to the
- 77 lesser of seventy-five dollars or ten percent of the credit
- 78 advanced from time to time from the line of credit; such
- 79 credit advance fee may be added to the open-end credit
- 80 outstanding along with any interest, and shall not be
- 81 considered the unlawful compounding of interest as specified
- 82 under section 408.120;
- 83 (10) A deficiency waiver addendum, guaranteed asset
- 84 protection, or a similar product purchased as part of a loan
- 85 transaction with collateral and at the borrower's consent,
- 86 provided the cost of the product is disclosed in the loan
- 87 contract, is reasonable, and the requirements of section
- **88** 408.380 are met;
- 89 (11) A convenience fee for payments using an
- 90 alternative payment channel that accepts a debit or credit
- 91 card not present transaction, nonface-to-face payment,
- 92 provided that:
- 93 (a) The person making the payment is notified of the
- 94 convenience fee; and
- 95 (b) The fee is fixed or flat, except that the fee may
- 96 vary based upon method of payment used;

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97 (12) A charge for the cost for a credit report or 98 reports.

- 2. Other provisions of law to the contrary notwithstanding, an open-end credit contract under which a credit card is issued by a company, financial institution, savings and loan or other credit issuing company whose credit card operations are located in Missouri may charge an annual fee, provided that no finance charge shall be assessed on new purchases other than cash advances if such purchases are paid for within twenty-five days of the date of the periodic statement therefor.
- 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, in addition to charges allowed pursuant to section 408.100, an open-end credit contract provided by a company, financial institution, savings and loan or other credit issuing company which is regulated pursuant to this chapter may charge an annual fee not to exceed fifty dollars.

The certificate of acknowledgment shall 1. 2 state the act of acknowledgment, and that the person making the same was personally known to at least one judge of the 3 court, or to the officer granting the certificate, to be the 4 5 person whose name is subscribed to the instrument as a party 6 thereto, or was proved to be such by at least two witnesses, 7 whose names and places of residence shall be inserted in the 8 certificate; and the following forms of acknowledgment may 9 be used in the case of conveyances or other written instruments affecting real estate; and any acknowledgment so 10 taken and certificate shall be sufficient to satisfy all 11 requirements of law relating to the execution or recording 12 of such instruments (begin in all cases by a caption, 13 specifying the state and place where the acknowledgment is 14 15 taken):

(1)In case of natural persons acting in their own 16 17 right On this \_\_\_\_ day of , 20 , 18 before me personally appeared A B (or A B and C 19 D), to me known to be the person (or persons) 20 21 described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he (or they) 22 23 executed the same as his (or their) free act and deed. 24 25 (2) In the case of natural persons acting by attorney On this day of , 20 , 26 before me personally appeared A B, to me known 27 28 to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument in behalf of C D, and acknowledged 29 that he executed the same as the free act and 30 deed of C D. 31 32 In the case of corporations or joint stock associations 33 On this day of , 20 , 34 before me appeared A B, to me personally known, 35 who, being by me duly sworn (or affirmed) did 36 say that he is the president (or other officer 37 or agent of the corporation or association), of 38 (describing the corporation or association), and 39 that the seal affixed to foregoing instrument is 40 41 the corporate seal of said corporation (or association), and that said instrument was 42 signed and sealed in behalf of said corporation 43 44 (or association) by authority of its board of directors (or trustees), and said A B 45 acknowledged said instrument to be the free act 46 and deed of said corporation (or association). 47

In case the corporation or association has no corporate seal, omit the words "the seal affixed to said instrument is the corporate seal of said corporation (or association), and that", and add at the end of the affidavit clause the words "and that said corporation (or association) has no corporate seal". (In all cases add signature and title of the officer taking the acknowledgment.) 

[4. When a married woman unites with her husband in the execution of any such instrument, and acknowledges the same in one of the forms above sanctioned, she shall be described in the acknowledgment as his wife, but in all other respects her acknowledgment shall be taken and certified as if she were sole; and no separate examination of a married woman in respect to the execution of any release or dower, or other instrument affecting real estate, shall be required.]

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