

By: Villarreal

H.B. No. 1979

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to interest on commercial loans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 306.002, Finance Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) The provisions of this chapter do not affect transactions that are not subject to this chapter nor affect or negatively impact any rule of law applicable to transactions not subject to this chapter.

SECTION 2. Section 306.003, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 306.003. COMPUTATION OF LOAN TERMS [~~TERM~~]. (a) In addition to any other method otherwise permitted under this title, a creditor and an obligor may agree to compute an annual interest rate on a commercial loan on a 365/360 basis, determined by applying the ratio of the percentage annual interest rate agreed to by the parties over a year of 360 days, multiplied by the outstanding principal balance, multiplied by the actual number of days the principal balance is outstanding. A creditor and an obligor may also agree to compute the term and rate of a commercial loan based on a 360-day year consisting of 12 30-day months. Each [~~For purposes of this chapter, each~~] rate ceiling under Chapters 302 and 303 expressed as a rate per year may mean a rate per year computed in accordance with this section [~~consisting of 360 days and of 12~~]

1 ~~30-day months]~~.

2 (b) A creditor and an obligor may agree that one or more
3 payments of interest due or that are scheduled to be due with
4 respect to a commercial loan may be paid on a periodic basis, but
5 not more often than monthly, wholly or partly by adding to the
6 principal balance of the loan the amount of unpaid interest due or
7 scheduled to be due. On and after the date an amount of interest is
8 added to the principal balance under this subsection, that amount
9 no longer constitutes interest, but instead constitutes part of the
10 principal for purposes of calculating the maximum lawful rate or
11 amount of interest on the loan.

12 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
13 a loan agreement entered into on or after the effective date of this
14 Act. A loan agreement entered into before the effective date of
15 this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the agreement
16 was entered into, and the former law is continued in effect for that
17 purpose.

18 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.