

THEMATIC TITLE	LEGAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE DEBT OF GOVERNMENT TEACHERS IN TEACHER SAVINGS COOPERATIVES
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ABSTRACT

This independent study on legal problems related to the debt of government teachers in teacher savings cooperatives aims to (1) investigate background, concepts and theories related to the debt of government teachers in teacher savings cooperatives, (2) investigate legal measures related to the debt of government teachers in teacher savings cooperatives of Thailand and foreign countries, (3) analyze problems related to the debt of government teachers in teacher savings cooperatives, and (4) find out the approaches to solve the laws related to the debt of government teachers in teacher savings cooperatives.

The findings revealed that (1) regarding the problems on determining the interest rates for loan request among the members of teacher savings cooperatives, the Section of 51/1 of the Cooperative Act, B.E. 2542 empowers the committees of teacher savings cooperatives to determine the loan interest rate; as a result, each of teacher savings cooperatives determines a different interest rate and the members of each cooperatives pay a varying interest payment, leading to disparity between cooperatives in determining loans, (2) regarding the problems on asking for an increase of credit limit among the members of teacher savings cooperatives, the Section 46 of the Cooperative Act, B.E. 2542 allows the teacher savings cooperatives to expand the loan limit and increase the loan ceiling to solve the financial liquidity problems but the cooperatives members do not have more income from doing other occupations resulting in creating debt burdens to their family, and (3) regarding the problems on debt moratorium of the members of teacher savings cooperatives, the Sections of 50 and 51/1 of the Cooperative Act, B.E. 2542 empower the

committees of teacher savings cooperatives to establish the criteria of debt moratorium which determines the criteria of refraining from paying the loan principal and paying only the interest; moreover, when the borrowers cannot make a loan principal payment and need to skip the payment for a long time causing more debt burdens to the cooperatives members and the cooperatives members who lack the money-saving discipline.

Therefore, it is advisable to amend the Cooperative Act, B.E. 2542 on the debt of government teachers in teacher savings cooperatives by making a subordinate legislation to solve the debt problems of government teachers who are the members of teacher savings cooperatives as a guideline of teacher savings cooperatives. This includes the establishment of an interest rate as a standard for every teacher savings cooperative, the criteria of expanding the credit limit, and debt moratorium of the members of teacher savings cooperatives in order to achieve the objectives to help the cooperative members with non-profit making.