

Vickers, would you like to close?

SENATOR VICKERS: Very briefly, Madam President. Madam President and members of the Legislature, as I indicated this morning and as this body undoubtedly agreed with this morning when we removed the word "substandard" on another bill, substandard it seems to me is very, very difficult to define, if you can define it at all. If you accept the concept that we are going to say that if it is below average, whatever that is, or below standard, that it should apply these types of mechanism to it, and I suggest that it could apply to an awfully lot of people's homes who probably are not that bad of shape. If, on the other hand, you think that this should apply to those areas who obviously are blighted, which obviously have a real problem, I think the term "blighted" is pretty well accepted and certainly doesn't need the word "substandard" in there to help clarify what a blighted area is. So I think the same arguments can be made, although as Senator Newell pointed out, yes, this is a separate issue. It is a separate bill, but the same arguments are there, the same definitional problems are there and the same broadening of this concept is there, and I oppose that. It seems to me that by removing the word "substandard" would help this considerably in this area. So I urge the adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Vickers was closing. We are now voting on the Senator Vickers amendment to the committee amendment. All those in favor vote aye, all opposed vote nay. This takes a simple majority. Have you all voted?

CLERK: Senator Labeledz voting yes.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Have you all voted? The Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 17 ayes, 10 nays, Madam Chair, on adoption of Senator Vickers' amendment.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Yes, Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Timing is key and I was hoping to ask for a Call of the House on this issue.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator, I asked three times, have you all voted? Sorry you weren't on the ball.

SENATOR NEWELL: I know, it's the Vickers amendment. I am not in favor of the Vickers amendment. This is an amendment to the committee amendment, which means it only takes a