

we really felt that to leave this in the bill would be a constitutionally questionable provision because we would not...it would be very difficult to tell when an appeal was made for vexatious purposes or for delay purposes. So we as a committee reluctantly ask the body to amend this bill to take this provision out and if we do that then we'll explain the other provision of the bill that is maintained. With that, I would ask you to adopt the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, you've heard the explanation of the committee amendments. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on the adoption of the committee amendments. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: They are adopted. Anything further on the bill?

CLERK: Nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Harris asked me to define what vexatious meant and I told him I didn't have to do that anymore because we just took it out of the bill, so vexatious is no longer in the bill. What the bill does now then, the operative measure is Section 2 here which gives other property owners in the neighborhood the opportunity to intervene in the case of appeals. Let me explain what that means. Condemnation is primarily an administrative procedure. If one of the city inspectors sees a property in the city that is not being maintained and could endanger someone's life, what they do is they serve notice on the individual that they need to improve their property. If the property is not improved then they go through the condemnation procedures which culminate with the city council voting to condemn the property. During that time, adjacent property owners who feel as though their property value is being affected by the presence of this run down property in the neighborhood they can intervene. They can come to the city council and they can speak on the matter. They can urge the Permits and Inspections Department to take action. Under current law