

SENATOR SAVAGE: Okay. Senator Newell, you're the only... the last light on.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, the definition, and I haven't read Senator Maxey's proposal, but there is some definitional questions that must be addressed. Not only is mobile homes an issue here, but also the next natural step is leased ground. Those are very legitimate things. I would not argue against them. In fact, the circuit breaker, which we've talked about many times, both have those inclusions. But those inclusions are limited under those two proposals. They are limited to homesteads. One of the things we must avoid is say the person who owns a cabin on leased land, they own a mobile home down at the lake Wauchukatchee, or Lake McConaughy, whatever, and they also own a home in town. Their incomes are hidden under...they have various income benefits. Say they have all their income sources in tax free municipal bonds, so what they can conceivably do, and I'm not saying they're going to do this in all cases, but what they can do, if these things are not defined clearly, they can be a very wealthy person with a spendable income, an income of say \$15,000 a year. They could have an exemption on their home, which would be their domicile homestead, they could have an exemption on their mobile home that they have parked on Lake McConaughy, then they could also have it on leased ground at their cabin, someplace else. So these are definitional questions that have to be looked into. If we just include mobile homes, we say all mobile homes, well it is also possible that the cabin, or let's say that you have a mobile home that is really affixed to a cabin or something. What do they call those all-enclosed things that you drive from part to the other? Winnebago whatever. Those things can, if they are parked on leased land, and they can, unless there is a definitional question of how long you have to stay there, they could qualify for a homestead exemption. For 15 minutes to half an hour they could qualify for a homestead exemption, unless there is some mandates of time, like they have to be placed in there permanently, affixed with some sort of...some other types of things, to make sure that they are fixed there year-round. So these are things that I'm not sure what the situation is under Senator Maxey's proposal, but these are all possibilities that somebody ought to ask, in fact I would hope that Senator Maxey would address. Thank you.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: I support Senator Maxey's amendment. There may be some technical problems with it as far as definitions, but I think those can be looked at and worked on as the bill moves along on Select File to be bracketed for a few weeks. So we've got a chance to work the amendments out. So I don't think...what we should be addressing is the concept. Senator Stoney raised questions about the concept. I think that is the issue we should debate. Should people, who live in mobile homes, who are over 65, get a homestead exemption or not? I think they should. Senator DeCamp points out that the Tax Commissioner is now treating these as if they were real property. People are feeling major tax burdens on their mobile homes. I think that we have to provide some tax relief for the senior citizens who live in mobile homes, not just those who have been able to save up the money to buy a house, or through whatever reason own a house, but those who are living in mobile homes. That is the concept we should be voting on.