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FLOOR DEBATE

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adopted on General File, so I don't think we need that. And I would ask, you know, if Synowiecki takes it to a vote, that you oppose the committee...or his amendment, and at last let the bill advance to Final Reading. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Chambers, on AM3372 to LB 888.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have talked to both Senators Friend and Synowiecki about Senator Synowiecki's amendment. And I let Senator Synowiecki know that even though my district is an impoverished one, not everybody is impoverished, but many impoverished people live in that district, one of the costliest items is heat or cooling, energy efficiency, to use the shorthand term. And I do not want a set of circumstances where, because people are poor or they live in an impoverished area, that policies which are designed to be beneficial to the public at large will be withheld from them because some builders say it will cost a bit more money. It would be better to allow that money to be spent in the first instance to make a structure weathertight or energy efficient than to have one that is not energy efficient but will continue to cost the resident large amounts of money to provide heating throughout the cold season. Prevention is better than cure. In the long run, money will be saved by following a path of energy efficiency. I had mentioned the types of things that Senator Mines talked about, because I was here when the state laws were changed to allow areas to be deemed blighted which were not blighted at all based on the ordinary meaning of that word. But by so designating an area, not only does it allow the kind of financing that Senator Mines mentioned and Senator Hartnett underlined; it allows the use of eminent domain. And people who otherwise could fight it are not in a position to do so, because there need not be any proof on the record that a particular structure is blighted. It is blighted by operation of law. It sits in a certain location. Now, if it were the home of Senator...I meant, of "King" Buffett, he would have the wherewithal to just stomp his feet or do like Khrushchev and take off a shoe, and go down on the county board table and pound it, and they would back away and not try to use eminent domain against his property. But in areas where people have struggled