

are we dealing right now with the committee amendments or with the bill itself?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: We are dealing with the bill as we just amended it, so the bill as amended, Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, thank you. Now, second question, you mentioned that we were talking about active or passive solar systems. Are we talking about both active and passive in this piece of legislation then as amended?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, we are talking about both active and passive.

SENATOR VICKERS: And you indicated that the total cost was going to be very minimal.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: That is correct.

SENATOR VICKERS: Because, if I understood you correctly, you also indicated that even though the cost of installing this equipment might be rather expensive, the total additional cost as far as the evaluation to the property might be very minimal.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Very modest.

SENATOR VICKERS: How did you...how were you told in the committee by the tax assessors that they would approach that subject? How do they determine what the actual value is?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: They had a long conversation about that, Senator Vickers. They said simply that what you do, you take a house that you put in, say an active solar system and you ask yourself what that house would probably sell for on the real estate market with that solar system and you compare what the house would have sold for without it and whatever that difference in valuation is, that represents the increase that is attributable to the solar system.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, then in other words, as energy costs go up the value of that active solar system as far as the valuation of the property is concerned will probably increase also. Would that be correct?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, I would say that.

SENATOR VICKERS: So then the total cost of this program could conceivably be a considerable amount down the road if energy costs continue to climb. Would that be fair to assume that?