

longer be under the act under the committee amendment. And so with that, I would move for the committee amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, on the committee amendments. All right. Senator Hannibal, on the committee amendments. Okay, if there is no further discussion, the question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are adopted. Now we are back to the bill. Senator Wesely, would you like to comment further on the bill?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, thank you. I explained to some degree the bill, but let me, again, I would be happy to try and answer some questions but we had a number of individuals come forward with suggestions on the bill and we plan to keep working with them. But we appreciate very much that Speaker Barrett has put the bill on the agenda so quickly. We need to pass this legislation as soon as possible, and we need to pass it with the emergency clause, and we need to pass it within the next few weeks, if at all possible, because the situation is, after the uproar that the legislation caused last year, and we did hold that public hearing, and the Health Department has been providing waivers to essentially meet the intent of this legislation since last fall, and the situation is that we must act this session and we must act as soon as we can this session to clarify the statutes so that they can go forward, then, and permanently change the rules and regulations to reflect this change of policy. In the meantime, there are many projects and contractors and individuals around the state that are anticipating the passage of the bill, and some are waiting for the bill to be passed, and others are trying to work through waiver systems to deal with this, and, clearly, the Legislature needs to resolve the issue. I think at this point we could get into some questions on the bill, but I would prefer that we understand that there will be another opportunity on Select File to address some concerns and we continue to negotiate with the Health Department and other interested individuals. But we are on a tight time frame and so I do encourage you to keep that in mind, that we do need to move forward with the bill. Now, again, the primary concerns that