

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: So if a community that has a housing shortage because they've had growth, a company comes in, maybe a Micron or one of the other companies that would come in, that would have very high income salaries or good income salary to people that would be looking for housing. How do you think...would they be able to access these funds because the community would be looking for "affordable housing" for the new people that are coming in to the community that may be making somewhere in the forty to sixty thousand dollar range.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Senator,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...I guess I'm not altogether sure. Perhaps you should direct that question to Senator Wesely. One of the activities that they can indulge in are projects providing housing in areas determined by the Department of Economic Development to be of critical importance to continued economic development and economic well-being of the community, and where, as determined by the department, a shortage of affordable housing exists.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Now here's where you're getting to the problem. I could be making \$100,000 a year and what I...if what I really want is \$150,000 house, or all that comes with a \$150,000 house, that house is not affordable to me.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Right. And I think...

SENATOR BEUTLER: I mean who is, who is it affordable to, I guess.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Right, I thank you, Senator Beutler. And I, to be honest with you, that's the concern I have with the bill that we...I don't know if we'll ever get to. But, members of the body, Senator Beutler's amendment, you know, I'll support it, but it won't do anything unless you have a definition of what affordable is. And just keep in mind the Department of Economic Development, one of the things that they've done, and this is not a criticism, this is an acknowledgement of one of the things that they've done, is certainly have gone out,