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FLOOR DEBATE

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through the middle of the block. Two people have garages. It's their only garage and the access to the garage can only come from the alley. On either side of the block are open streets, so that there's access to the lot from the open street, but the two folks who have a garage that accesses from the alley cannot access their garage from the streets, for example, even though everybody else can.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Then that...

SENATOR BEUTLER: If I'm understanding this, instead of having a petition process where the neighbors might sympathize with these two people who have garages that access to the alley, theoretically at least, the city council, without a petition, can make a decision to close that alley and eliminate access to the two garages. Is that a fair statement or not?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Yes, but I don't believe that, you can ask Mr. Stadtwald, but if that is the only access those people have, they cannot close that alley. It would have to remain open. If there was no other means of access, they would have to leave that open.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, that's not in the language of the bill. Is that some other statute or some other case law or something?

SENATOR JANSSEN: I would imagine it could be...

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's your understanding of it anyway.

SENATOR JANSSEN: ...case law, Senator. I'm not sure about that. But you cannot deny someone access, I know that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, usually under title insurance law, for example, you have access to the lot if you can drive onto it from the public street. And in the situation I was talking about, you could access the lot. You just couldn't get to where your garage was currently.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Um-hum. Um-hum.