

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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This bill expands the definition of “public use” in eminent domain law to provide that taking possession of abandoned property in certain neighborhoods in order to lessen the harmful effects of foreclosures constitutes a “public use” or “public purpose.” A definition of abandoned property is provided in the bill.

By expanding the definition of “public use” in eminent domain law to include abandoned properties, the law would permit these properties to be taken by a condemning authority and converted to another use. Typically a “condemning authority” is a unit of government. In the event a property is taken under the power of eminent domain, the owner of the property is entitled to just compensation for the loss of the property.