

seconded that we close debate. All in favor?

[There is a very weak chorus of ayes.]

VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: All in favor of closing debate?

[There is a slightly stronger chorus of ayes.]

Opposed?

[No response.]

VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: We are voting on the substitute. Or should we vote on the entire amended version?

DELEGATE SHELTON: The entire amended version.

VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Okay, the entire amended version now reads, "All employees shall be guaranteed equal pay for equal work and equal pay for comparable work."

All in favor of that new section --

VOICE: We don't have a quorum.

[Pause for quorum count.]

VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Can you call for someone out there to come in? We need one more person.

[Brief off the record to structure quorum.]

DELEGATE MARCUS: Point of information. Point of information.

VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Will the maker of the motion and the maker of the substitute motion, Mr. Jackson, Ms. Shelton,

you may want to think for one minute about a definition of the word "employees." It has been the practice in some places for the word "employees" to be an excuse to exclude independent contractors from the right for equal pay for equal work or for equal pay for comparable work.

So before we vote, if you would accept this, I would offer a friendly amendment to change the word "employees" to "persons."

[Pause.]

VOICE: All persons.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Is that acceptable?

VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: It did not say that in Economic Development. Is there any further discussion on the word "persons"?

DELEGATE SHELTON: [Inaudible] [She accepts the proffered word change.]

[At this point, Chairperson having side discussion, most of the people on the floor also having side discussions.]

DELEGATE SHELTON: That seems to be our concept, you know, and we wholeheartedly accept the concept. There is a certain body of law and a certain body of already-existing momentum for certain parts of this if you want to piggy-back on that rather than make some changes. It has to do with those