Statement regarding application text amendment

The proposed text amendment does not allow the government, or anyone else, to “use someone else’s land.” It allows the filing and processing of a land use application without landowner consent, but in order to actually use that land, the applicant will need to either get the consent of the landowner or else acquire the property rights necessary to make use of the land (for example, temporary or permanent easement, or fee title). Neither the government nor a private entity with eminent domain authority can obtain property rights without paying just compensation, either through a negotiated purchase or through a court award in a condemnation action.