

HOUSE No. 31

By Mr. Toomey of Boston, petition of Joseph D. Toomey that tenants be protected from eviction during the months of December, January and February. Nov. 5, 1923.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Four.

AN ACT

Relative to the Protection of Certain Tenants from Eviction in the Winter Months.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section one of chapter five hundred
2 and seventy-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred
3 and twenty is hereby amended by adding at the
4 end thereof the following:—; provided, that
5 where such period would otherwise expire in the
6 month of December, January or February, such
7 stay shall be for such period that it will not cease
8 to operate earlier than March first following,— so
9 as to read as follows:— *Section 1.* In an action
10 of summary process to recover possession of
11 premises occupied for dwelling purposes, other
12 than a room or rooms in a hotel, lodging house or

13 rooming house, where a tenancy has been ter-
14 minated without fault of the tenant, either by
15 operation of law or by act of the landlord, except
16 by a notice to quit for non-payment of rent as pro-
17 vided in section twelve of chapter one hundred
18 and twenty-nine of the Revised Laws, a discre-
19 tionary stay of judgment and execution may be
20 granted, as hereinafter provided, upon application
21 of the tenant, for a period not exceeding six
22 months, as the court may deem just and reason-
23 able; *provided, that where such period would*
24 *otherwise expire in the month of December, Janu-*
25 *ary or February, such stay shall be for such period*
26 *that it will not cease to operate earlier than March*
27 *first following.*

1 SECTION 2. Section six of said chapter five hun-
2 dred and seventy-seven, as amended by chapter
3 four hundred and ninety of the acts of nineteen
4 hundred and twenty-one, by section three of chap-
5 ter three hundred and fifty-seven of the acts of
6 nineteen hundred and twenty-two, and by section
7 two of chapter thirty-six of the acts of nineteen
8 hundred and twenty-three, is hereby further
9 amended by striking out, in the third line, the word
10 “ twenty-four ” and inserting in place thereof the
11 word:— twenty-five,— so as to read as follows:
12 — *Section 6.* This act shall become null and void
13 on the first day of May in the year nineteen hun-
14 dred and *twenty-five.*