

# HOUSE . . . . No. 2213

---

---

By Messrs. Campbell of Cambridge, Feloney of Cambridge and Sennott of Cambridge, petition of John J. Campbell, Lawrence F. Feloney and John R. Sennott, Jr., for legislation relative to rent control. Mercantile Affairs.

---

---

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Six.

---

### AN ACT RELATIVE TO RENT CONTROL.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation this act would tend  
2 to defeat its purpose, which is in part to prevent the  
3 hardship which would result from increases in rent in  
4 areas in which severe shortages of housing accommo-  
5 dations exist, this act is hereby declared to be an emer-  
6 gency law necessary for the immediate preservation of  
7 the public health, welfare, safety and convenience.

*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. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions  
2 of law or of chapter four hundred and thirty-four of the  
3 acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-three, as most recently  
4 amended by chapter two hundred and twenty-five of the  
5 acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-five, any city or town  
6 in which the provisions of said chapter four hundred  
7 and thirty-four, as amended, were in effect on December  
8 thirty-first, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, may, by  
9 vote of the city council, subject to the provisions of its  
10 charter, if a city, or by vote of a town meeting, if a  
11 town, vote to continue the provisions of said chapter  
12 four hundred and thirty-four, as amended, to such date  
13 as may be specified in such vote, but not later than  
14 December thirty-first, nineteen hundred and fifty-six.

1 SECTION 2. Upon the passage of this act the maximum  
2 rent for any housing accommodation in a city or town  
3 voting to continue the provisions of said chapter four  
4 hundred and thirty-four, as amended, shall be the rent  
5 established for such housing accommodations on Decem-  
6 ber thirty-first, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, but  
7 nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting  
8 the right of any city or town rent board to make general  
9 or individual adjustments in maximum rents as pro-  
10 vided in said chapter four hundred and thirty-four.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect as of January  
2 first, nineteen hundred and fifty-six.