

# HOUSE . . . . No. 2661

Substituted by the House, on motion of Mr. Coltun of Chelsea, for a report of the committee on the Judiciary, reference to the next annual session, on the recommitted petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1918) of Harry Coltun relative to granting stays of execution in eviction proceedings to the surviving spouse, parents or children of deceased tenants at will. May 6.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE BENEFITS OF THE PRESENT  
EVICTION LAWS RELATING TO EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO  
THE SURVIVING SPOUSE, PARENTS OR CHILDREN OF A  
DECEASED TENANT AT WILL.

*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 9 of chapter 239 of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby  
3 amended by striking out, in lines 4 and 8, the word  
4 "tenant" and inserting in place thereof, in each in-  
5 stance, the word:—defendant,—so as to read as  
6 follows:—*Section 9.* In an action of summary pro-  
7 cess to recover possession of premises occupied for  
8 dwelling purposes, other than a room or rooms in a  
9 hotel, lodging house or rooming house, where a ten-  
10 ancy has been terminated without fault of the de-

11 fendant, either by operation of law or by act of the  
12 landlord, except by a notice to quit for nonpayment  
13 of rent as provided in section twelve of chapter one  
14 hundred and eighty-six, a discretionary stay of judg-  
15 ment and execution may be granted, as hereinafter  
16 provided, upon application of the defendant, for such  
17 period not exceeding one month, as the court may  
18 deem just and reasonable.