

# HOUSE . . . . No. 754

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Accompanying the petition of George J. Bates relative to increasing the debt limit of cities and towns. Municipal Finance. January 18.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

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### AN ACT

To increase the Debt Limit for Cities and Towns.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would  
2 cause great inconvenience to our cities and towns, there-  
3 fore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law and  
4 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
5 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 ten of chapter forty-four of the General Laws  
2 is hereby amended by striking out, in line two, the words  
3 "two and one half", and inserting in place thereof the  
4 word: — three, — and by inserting, in line four, after the  
5 word "three", the words: — and one half, — so as to  
6 read as follows: — *Section 10.* Except as otherwise au-  
7 thorized by law, a city shall not authorize indebtedness

8 to an amount exceeding three per cent, and a town shall  
9 not authorize indebtedness to an amount exceeding three  
10 and one half per cent, on the average of the assessors'  
11 valuation of the taxable property of the three preceding  
12 years, the valuations being first reduced by the amount  
13 of all abatements allowed thereon previous to December  
14 thirty-first of the preceding year. All debts, except those  
15 expressly authorized by law to be incurred outside the  
16 debt limit, shall be reckoned in determining its limit of  
17 indebtedness under this section.



