

HOUSE No. 4838

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger that cities and towns be authorized to exceed the two and one-half per cent tax assessment by a majority vote. Taxation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Three.

AN ACT TO RESTORE HOME RULE FOR LOCAL TAXATION.

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. Chapter 580 of the acts of 1980 is hereby amended
2 by inserting after section 21C (4) the following section: —

3 *Section 21C(5).* (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsec-
4 tions (1), (2), (3) and (4) the total taxes assessed under any provision
5 of this chapter by any city or town may exceed two and one-half
6 percent of the full and fair cash valuation by a majority vote of a
7 town meeting in the case of a town or by a majority vote of the
8 governing body in the case of a city.

9 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1), (2), (3)
10 and (4) the total taxes assessed under any provision of this chapter
11 by any city or town may exceed two and one-half percent of the full
12 and fair cash valuation by a special or regular election called by a
13 majority vote of a town meeting in case of a town or by a majority
14 vote of the city council or board of aldermen in the case of a city
15 and there shall appear on the ballot, the following question:

16 Shall the present (two and one-half percent or such other percent
17 as shall then be in effect pursuant to this section) limit on the
18 assessment of real estate and personal property taxes with respect
19 to this city or town be changed to _____ percent for the fiscal year
20 _____?

YES _____ NO _____

