



# City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL  
January 26, 1976

Councillor Ackermann  
Councillor Clem  
Councillor Duehay  
Councillor Graham  
Councillor Vellucci

**WHEREAS:**

The right of a local community to protect its tenants against arbitrary rent increases and unjust evictions by accepting the state rent and eviction control enabling law, Chapter 842 of the Acts of 1970, should be made a permanent local option, without expiration, therefore be it

**ORDERED:**

That the Cambridge City Council urges the General Court and the Governor to take speedy action to pass legislation which accomplishes the above goal, and be it further

**ORDERED:**

That copies of this order and the vote thereon shall be sent by the City Clerk to Senators LoPresti and McCann, Representatives Mahoney, Flaherty, Toomey, and Lombardi, all members of the Joint Committee on Local Affairs, all members of the House and Senate Ways and Means Committee, Senate President Harrington, House Speaker McGee, and Governor Dukakis.



# City of Cambridge

3.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 19, 1976

Councillor Sullivan

**WHEREAS:**

Our state legislators must confront the issue of Rent Control in the coming Legislative Session, and

**WHEREAS:**

Continuation of rent control in its present form would only serve to prolong and intensify the social and economic injustices that have been the bitter fruit of an otherwise well intended policy, and

**WHEREAS:**

Nonetheless, the sudden dismantling of rent control altogether might lead to a situation of chaos and fiscal retribution for long endured past frustrations, and

**WHEREAS:**

Such a volatile and traumatic change might foreclose the possibility of ever again reacting and responding to this issue in a reasonable way, and

**WHEREAS:**

During this critical period, it is important that this honorable body take a position of leadership, fairness and unbiased concern for all of our citizens, therefore, in an effort to reconcile our city's divergent needs, be it

**RESOLVED:**

That the Cambridge City Council go on record as supporting the continuation of Chapter 842 of the Acts of 1970, with the following amendments:

1. Rental units which are vacant or which may become vacant on December 1, 1975 or anytime thereafter shall not be subject to the provisions of this Act. For purposes of this section a unit shall be construed to have been vacated when the occupant shall be a person or persons other than the occupant or occupants in such unit prior to December 1, 1975, except for a spouse or any children born to them during the term of the occupancy.
2. In the event that a tenant is harassed by the owner so that the tenant is caused to vacate the rental unit, he may file an affidavit setting forth the facts concerning such harassment with the local Rent Control Board. The Board shall forthwith transmit a copy of such affidavit to the owner, giving the owner 14 days to file a counter affidavit. The Board shall then conduct a hearing at which all parties may attend and present evidence. If the Board finds that the tenant was harassed into vacating the apartment, the rent for said unit shall not be decontrolled.

# City of Cambridge

-2-

3. When a tenant and the owner or his agent reach a mutual agreement on a rental charge for a unit which is in excess of the maximum rent authorized by the rent control board, such new rent shall become the maximum rent for said unit provided notice of such agreement is given to the rent control board in writing signed by both the tenant and the owner or his agent.

4. Upon receipt of written request for rent review from either a tenant or owner, or their agents, the Rent Control Board must hold such a hearing within 60 days, and must make its decision within 30 days of such a hearing.

*Charter Right by C. Sullivan*

F-73

Order #3

AG Sullivan resolutions on Rent Control.

Calendar #4  
Ld #4 - 2/18/76 - Placed  
on file.

1/19/76

L. Neumann moved to  
repeal this order by  
substituting in place  
thereof the following  
Order co-sponsored by  
the following Councilor.  
- Last order -

In City Council,

~~Jan. 12, 1976~~

Jan. 19, 1976

L. Sullivan exercised his Change  
Right and the order  
was replaced to the

Calendar for Jan 26/76

2/9/76 - No Action Taken.

2/18/76 - Referred to Hearing

held that date - [unclear]