

Sebastian Vasconcelos

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April 2, 1990

Dear Sen/Rep.:

I am a Cambridge home owner, obviously not one of your constituents, but I respectfully ask you to vote 'no' on Cambridge's home rule petition being considered by the Local Affairs Committee regarding rent control regulation C1/2.

On this subject, Senator Michael Barrett, Cambridge, is quoted on the Cambridge Chronicle as trying to convince the members of the committee that the issue is **"not whether you like rent control or not, it's whether Cambridge voters should be allowed to have their way"**.

I submit to you that the answer to Sen. Barrett is that Cambridge voters should not "be allowed to have their way", and that the State Legislature must act as a 'check and balance' to the despotic majority contrived by the **'Cambridge progressives'**. They have concocted an absolutely unbreakable majority coalition of one-family home owners, owner-occupied two/three-unit home owners (exempt from rent control), professionals, and students against whom the owners of rent controlled buildings of four units or more have no chance of relief through the political process of the ballot box.

The consequences of such an unchecked majority, which is the case in Cambridge, were well analyzed by John Adams, in his *Defense of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America* (1787), where he states that if the majority were to control all branches of government, without checks and balances, **"Debts would be abolished first; taxes laid heavy on the rich, and not at all on others; and at last a downright equal division of everything be demanded and voted"**.

The **'Cambridge progressive'** coalition has managed to illustrate the irrationality and tyranny of an unchecked majority feared by John Adams. Through a perversion of the democratic process, it has isolated a politically powerless minority of home and residential property owners, stripping them of their constitutional property rights and exploiting their blood and sweat to the last drop. For this minority, the State Legislature is the only political hope to shake loose the grip of this coalition.

Therefore, although I am not your constituent, I appeal to you not only to vote 'no' on the C1/2 home rule petition, but I also **urge** you to consider initiating legislation designed to protect individuals from being deprived of their constitutional rights and exploited by '**Cambridge progressives**' in Cambridge or any other community in the Commonwealth.

In this letter I wish to address only the issue formulated by Sen. Barrett - *should or should not the voters of Cambridge have their way* - but I would welcome an opportunity to discuss with the committee the real issues involved in rent control which are: *income redistribution and fair taxation*.

'**Cambridge progressives**' have reduced the debate to masquerading themselves as (*progressive*) pro-'disadvantaged' against (*conservative-reactionary*) 'filthy capitalist' home owners, although the 'filthy capitalists' work on their homes until late night while the 'disadvantaged' enjoy their 'quality of life' (Saabs, concerts, vacations, etc.). These 'disadvantaged' include members of the Cambridge City Council and, for Cambridge home owners dismay, also out of town members of the State Legislature. The '**Cambridge progressives**' refuse to face the issue in terms of *income redistribution and fair taxation* because, doing so, it would expose them for what they are: hypocrites and social leeches.

If you ever decide to initiate any legislation to remedy the inequities of local policies such as Cambridge's rent control regulation, and you feel that you need help, I would be more than happy to volunteer my time and my vast expertise in the area of social analysis and policy.

Thank You!

Sincerely yours,

Sebastian Vasconcelos

PS. I respect any political ideology (conservative, liberal, progressive, etc.), and any individual who espouses any of them, as long as the ideology is applied and the individual acts consistently and fairly. In this letter, I intentionally utilize the designation '**Cambridge progressive**' because I do not wish to soil *progressive* political stands elsewhere by confusing them with a fraud such as the '**Cambridge progressives**'.

18.

S-408

Comm. from Sebastian Vasconcelos, 199
Hamilton Street, in opposition to Rent
Control Regulation c (1/2)

In City Council,

April 23, 1990

Placed on file