



City of Cambridge

11.

REVISED ORDER

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 19, 1981

COUNCILLOR DAVID SULLIVAN

- WHEREAS: Chapter 580 of the Acts of 1980, the initiative law "limiting state and local taxation and expenditures", popularly known as Proposition 2½, was defeated by the voters of the City of Cambridge by a vote of 14,427 to 24,306, with nearly two-thirds of those voting opposing it; and
- WHEREAS: The full implementation of this law in the City of Cambridge would bring about the most severe crisis ever to confront this city, the slow destruction of its government, and substantial human suffering by its citizens and employees, and therefore must not be allowed to occur; and
- WHEREAS: By its Order Number Eight of June 9, 1980 and Order Number Twelve of November 10, 1980, this City Council voted unanimously that the policy of this city would be to avoid the potentially disastrous effects of Proposition 2½ while bringing about a fairer state and local tax structure based on ability to pay and on recognition of the services provided by this city to the various businesses and educational institutions within its borders; and
- WHEREAS: It is crucial, particularly in the current public mood, that the citizens have a full voice in deciding the city's fiscal future, that new revenue sources be dedicated to reducing the burden of the regressive property tax, and that the city do everything possible to put its own house in order before seeking state authorization to undo the effects of Proposition 2½; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the Mayor appoint a citizens committee of nine members, with one member of the committee to be designated by each member of the City Council and the City Manager be requested to provide sufficient staff assistance, to examine the budget and government of the city and its schools and to report not later than March 15 with its recommendations for eliminating waste, abuse, and other unnecessary expenditures, for improving management and efficiency in delivering public services, and for raising additional city revenue without state authority and without increasing

the proportion of the costs of city government borne by low and moderate income persons; and be it further

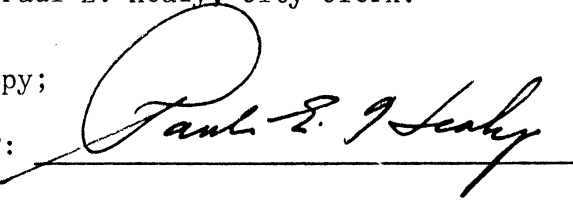
ORDERED: That the City Council of the City of Cambridge petition the General Court under section 8(1) of article 2, as amended by article 89, of the amendments to the Constitution, to enact one or more of the five attached special laws entitled:

1. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO IMPOSE AN EXCISE ON PAYROLLS.
2. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO EXEMPT THEIR CITY FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE INITIATIVE LAW LIMITING STATE AND LOCAL TAXATION AND EXPENDITURES.
3. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO TAX THE PROPERTY OF CERTAIN CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS.
4. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO EXEMPT ITSELF FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE INITIATIVE LAW LIMITING STATE AND LOCAL TAXATION AND EXPENDITURES.
5. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO HOLD REFERENDA ELECTIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT SHALL REDUCE REAL PROPERTY TAXES BY IMPOSING A PAYROLL TAX UPON EMPLOYERS AND TAX THE PROPERTY OF CERTAIN CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS, OR ALTERNATIVELY, WHETHER TO EXEMPT CAMBRIDGE FROM CHAPTER 580 OF THE ACTS OF 1980.

In City Council January 19, 1981.
Adopted by a yea and nay vote:-
Yeas 6; Nays 1; Absent 1; Present 1.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:


Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

Order # 11

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C. D. Sullivan re: revised order filing
five home rule petitions with the Legisla-
ture regarding alternative revenue sources
in relation to Proposition 2½.

*for initial order
see 1/12/81.*

In City Council,

January 19, 1981