



# City of Cambridge

O-12  
**FIRST IN COUNCIL**  
September 14, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN  
MAYOR SIDDIQUI  
VICE MAYOR MALLON  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the state legislature is considering H.4878, the COVID-19 Housing Stability Act; and

WHEREAS: H.4878 would guarantee housing stability for renters and homeowners during the COVID-19 pandemic by banning evictions for unpaid rent as well as foreclosures for missed mortgage payments through the duration of the State of Emergency and for a full year after it ends; and

WHEREAS: H.4878 would provide “just cause” protections to ensure renters and foreclosed homeowners cannot be evicted for no-fault or non-renewal of leases through the end of the State of Emergency and for a full year after it ends, and would provide a local option for municipalities to extend these protections upon expiration; and

WHEREAS: H.4878 would expand mortgage determent protections to landlords who own up to 15 rental units to ensure interest does not accrue during the forbearance, putting missed payments at the end of the loan, and it would also ensure borrowers cannot be charged penalties for non-payment of mortgage; and

WHEREAS: H.4878 would freeze rents at pre-COVID-19 levels, ensuring the rent amount from March 10, 2020 would remain in effect through 12 months following the end of the State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS: H.4878 would establish a COVID-19 Housing Stability and Recovery Fund to assist property owners who lost rental income or missed mortgage payments due to COVID-19, with priority given to low- and middle-class homeowners, elderly, owner-occupant, and non-profit landlords, and landlords who own 15 or fewer units; and

WHEREAS: H.4878 would obligate property owners who choose to draw upon the fund to extend protections to their tenants, and it would also establish an Oversight and Advisory Board to make recommendations on the equitable administration of the Housing Stability and Recovery Fund, to include members of the Legislature’s coronavirus working groups as well as strong representation of people from communities hardest hit by the pandemic and housing crisis; and

WHEREAS: Every single member of Cambridge’s legislative delegation has signed on as a cosponsor of H.4878; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record in strong support of H.4878, and in urging the legislature to pass it immediately; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this resolution to each chair of the Joint Committee on Housing and Governor Baker on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council September 14, 2020.  
Order Adopted by a yea and nay vote:-  
Yeas 8; Nays 0; Absent 1.  
Attest:- Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony I. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ATTEST:-

Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk