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Legislator Blasts Fight on Texas Rent Decontrol

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BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, May 12.—The developing fight over the bill before the Texas legislature to decontrol rent on a state-wide basis has grown hotter.

Rep. Carlton Moore of Houston, the bill's author, said an Air Force general's request to the governor that Texas take it easy on such legislation was the result of pressure from Washington.

Moore said Federal Housing Expediter Tighe Woods was "back of the whole thing" and accused Washington officials of ordering military officers to influence legislation in Texas and other states.

The legislator's blast came after Gov. Beauford H. Jester's office released a letter from Maj.

Gen. Robert W. Burns, deputy commanding general of the headquarters Air Training Command, Barksdale Field, La.

Burns said decontrol of all Texas rents "would most seriously affect the welfare of thousands of officers and airmen of the Air Training Command, who are assigned to bases in Texas."

Asked for comment on the letter, Moore said he thought Washington officials knew that "rent controls are not necessary in Texas."

Moore also took to task the State American Legion commander, Bill McCraw, for his stand on rent control. McCraw has demanded a public hearing on the bill before any further action is taken by the House. The measure has been passed on second reading.