

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mr. Donnelly

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the annual allowance for widows and widowers of certain public employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Mr. Donnelly

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Fourth Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ANNUAL ALLOWANCE FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS OF CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting in line 212 after the words “two hundred and fifty dollars a month” the
3 following words:-

4 or five hundred dollars a month, whichever is applicable to such spouse.

5 SECTION 2. Section 12 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
6 inserting after line 221 the following paragraph:-

7 Beginning July first, two thousand and nine, the normal monthly member-survivor allowance provided
8 for under this option to a spouse of a deceased member shall not be less than five-hundred dollars for
9 members of the state teachers’ and state employees’ retirement system. The provisions of this
10 paragraph shall take effect for the members of a retirement system of any other political subdivision by
11 a majority vote of the board of such system and by the local legislative body. For the purpose of this
12 paragraph, local legislative body shall mean a town meeting for a town system, the city council subject

13 to the provisions of its charter for a city system, the county retirement board advisory council for a
14 county system, the regional retirement board advisory council for a regional system, the district
15 members for a district system and the governing body of an authority for an authority system.
16 Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon the filing of a certification of such vote with the
17 commission.

18 SECTION 3. Section 101 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
19 inserting in line 8 after the words "six thousand dollars," the following words:-

20 or in the amount of nine thousand dollars in a retirement system accepting the supplemental annual
21 allowance provided for by this section.

22 SECTION 4. Section 101 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
23 by inserting at the end thereof the following words:-

24 Any retirement system may accept the supplemental annual allowance, provided for by this section and
25 fixed at the rate of nine thousand dollars, by a majority vote of the board of each such system, subject
26 to the approval of the legislative body. For the purposes of this section, "legislative body" shall mean, in
27 the case of a city, the city council in accordance with its charter, in the case of a town, the town
28 meeting, in the case of a county, the county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region,
29 the regional retirement board advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members, and, in the
30 case of an authority, the governing body. Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon the filing
31 of a certification of such votes with the commission. For purposes of this section, the state teachers'
32 and state employees' retirement systems shall be deemed to have accepted the supplemental annual
33 allowance provided for by this section.