HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1654 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1595

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul J. Donato

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:

An Act relative to veterans..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Paul J. Donato	*35th Middlesex*
Michael R. Knapik	☐ *[District]* ☐
Donald F. Humason, Jr.	*4th Hampden*
Paul McMurtry	*11th Norfolk*
Stephen Stat Smith	*28th Middlesex*
Theodore C. Speliotis	*13th Essex*
Sarah K. Peake	*4th Barnstable*
Michael O. Moore	☐ *[District]* ☐

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 1595

By Mr. Donato of Medford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1595) of Paul J. Donato and others relative to the retirement benefits of certain veterans. Public Service.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
HOUSE
, NO. *2359* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to veterans..

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

SECTION 1. Paragraph (h) of subdivision (1) of section 4 of said chapter 32, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph :Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or any other general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, a member retired prior to April 1996, in a retirement system as defined in section one who is a veteran , as defined Chapter 4 section 7, who served in the armed forces of the United States shall be entitled to credit for active service in the armed services of the United States; provided that such creditable service shall not be construed to include service for more than four years provided further, that such creditable service shall not be allowed for any period of active service for which said veteran has received credit pursuant to paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 4 of chapter thirty-two of the General Laws or for which said veteran receives a federal military pension and provided further, that the amount does not exceed the eighty percent allowed to retire. This act shall apply to Massachusetts National Guard and Active Reserve personnel, both former and present. Creditable service time, both enlisted and commissioned may be applied toward retirement on a ratio of five years guard service or five years active reserve service substitutable for each year of active service.

SECTION 2. For the retirement system of any political subdivision, the provisions

17 of this act shall take effect on the effective date of this act by majority vote of the board
18 of such system and by the local legislative body. For the purposes of this paragraph local

19 Legislative body shall mean a town meeting for a town system, the city council subject to
20 the provisions of its charter for a city system, the county commissioners for a county system, the
21 district members for a district system and the governing body of an authority for an authority
22 system. Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon the filing of a certification of 160
23 Chap. 71 such vote with the commissioner. Members retired prior to April 1996 of a retirement
24 system eligible for said creditable service under this act shall become eligible for said creditable
25 service the month following the acceptance of this act by the local legislative body. Terms used
26 in this act shall have the same meaning as those terms defined in section one of chapter thirty-
27 two of the General Laws.