

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2272**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Michael A. Costello***

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*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the death of judges in the performance of their duties and survivors benefits.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Michael A. Costello*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*1st Essex*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2272**

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By Mr. Costello of Newburyport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2272) of Michael A. Costello relative to the death of judges in the performance of their duties and survivors benefits. Public Service.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2431 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act relative to the death of judges in the performance of their duties and survivors benefits.

*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. Chapter 32 of the General Laws is hereby amended by the adding the  
2 following new section:

3 Section 65K Pension; Death of Judge in Performance of Duties; Survivor's Benefits In  
4 the event that that a Judge or Justice of any Massachusetts Court dies as a result of other than  
5 natural causes in the performance of his/her duties, the judge's designated survivors shall receive  
6 maximum retirement benefits, as if the Judge was fully vested, served the maximum number of  
7 years and reached the age of 70. For the purposes of this statute, "in the performance of his/her  
8 duties" shall include, but shall not be limited to: judicial assignments in any courthouse or other  
9 venue, such as hospitals or jails, used to conduct judicial business; to Emergency Judicial  
10 Response System assignments; to approved voluntary or assigned education programs or other  
11 assignment within the scope of his/her employment as a judge or justice. This statute shall apply  
12 to any judge or justice who deceased after January 2002. Benefits shall be effective at the date of  
13 death.