

HOUSE No. 1623

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ronald Mariano

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 enabling the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to make payments of wages and benefits to deceased employees or deceased former employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Ronald Mariano</i>	<i>3rd Norfolk</i>	<i>1/19/2011</i>

HOUSE No. 1623

By Mr. Mariano of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1623) of Ronald Mariano relative to enabling the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to make payments of wages and benefits to deceased employees or deceased former employees. Public Service.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act enabling the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to make payments of wages and benefits to deceased employees or deceased former employees.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to allow the prompt payment of wages and accrued benefits to the heirs and beneficiaries of deceased employees and deceased former employees of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority in the same manner as currently afforded to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority under section 27 of G.L. c. 161A as added by St. 1973, c. 857, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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. Whenever any employee or former employee of the Massachusetts Water
2 Resources Authority dies, and the authority owes his estate any sum or sums by reason of
3 services rendered by him for wages, or for unpaid vacation and/or sick time allowances, or for
4 any other accrued and unpaid benefits then due and owing to him, and neither a duly appointed
5 executor or administrator has made written demand for payment upon the treasurer of the
6 authority and the authority shall not otherwise have actual notice that proceedings relative to the
7 formal settlement of such employee’s estate have been commenced in any probate court, such
8 sum or sums may, in the discretion of the authority, be paid after the expiration of 30 days from

9 the death of such employee to such person as may have been nominated as beneficiary, on a form
10 approved by and filed either with the authority for life insurance purposes or with the
11 employee's retirement system by such employee during his lifetime. In the event that the
12 employee's retirement system is unable to locate any such beneficiary designation form, then the
13 authority shall next use a beneficiary designation form submitted by the employee to the
14 authority for life insurance purposes. If no such beneficiary designation form exists at either of
15 those sources or if the stated beneficiary is deceased or cannot be located, then the authority may
16 pay such sums to the surviving spouse or next of kin of such employee. Payments made as
17 provided in this section shall discharge all liability of the authority to all persons with respect to
18 such sum or sums.

19 Section 2. The provisions of section 1 shall take effect upon its enactment.