

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2431**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Michael A. Costello*

*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.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michael A. Costello</i>	<i>1st Essex</i>	<i>10/22/2012</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2431**

By Mr. Costello of Newburyport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2431) of Michael A. Costello relative to the death of judges in the performance of their duties and survivors benefits. Public Service.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**

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.

8 For the purposes of this statute, "in the performance of his/her duties" shall include, but  
9 shall not be limited to: judicial assignments in any courthouse or other venue, such as hospitals  
10 or jails, used to conduct judicial business; to Emergency Judicial Response System assignments;  
11 to approved voluntary or assigned education programs or other assignment within the scope of

- 12 his/her employment as a judge or justice. This statute shall apply to any judge or justice who
- 13 deceased after January 2002. Benefits shall be effective at the date of death.