

HOUSE No. 3143

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Stephen Kulik

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 payment of veteran's benefits.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Stephen Kulik</i> | <i>1st Franklin</i> |
| <i>Denise Provost</i> | <i>27th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i> | <i>3rd Worcester</i> |
| <i>Chris Walsh</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>James M. Murphy</i> | <i>4th Norfolk</i> |
| <i>Donald H. Wong</i> | <i>9th Essex</i> |
| <i>Robert L. Hedlund</i> | <i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i> |

HOUSE No. 3143

By Mr. Kulik of Worthington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3143) of Stephen Kulik and others relative to the payment of veterans' benefits. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3188 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to payment of veteran's 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. Section 5 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 striking the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following: "Veteran's benefits shall
3 be paid to a veteran or dependents by the Commonwealth; provided, that no benefits shall be
4 paid to a veteran unless he has actually resided in the Commonwealth for 1 day preceding the
5 date of his application for such benefits, nor shall any benefits be paid to any dependent of a
6 veteran unless he has actually resided in the Commonwealth continuously for three years next
7 preceding the date of his application for such benefits, nor unless the veteran of whom he is a
8 dependent has actually resided within the commonwealth continuously for three years next
9 preceding the date of such dependent's application for such benefits."

10 SECTION 2. Section 6 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws is hereby stricken in its
11 entirety and replaced by inserting its place the following: “The application for veteran’s benefits
12 is a function of the Veteran’s Service Officer in the city or town or district where the veteran or
13 his dependent resides. The Veteran’s Service Officer is required to certify to the Commonwealth
14 for direct payment to the veteran or dependent receiving the benefit the following information:
15 the names of recipients thereof, the amounts to be paid to or for each applicant, the reasons for
16 granting him such benefits, dates of residence in the Commonwealth, the names of the veterans
17 on account of whose services the benefits were granted, the names, if any, of the companies,
18 regiments, stations, organizations or vessels in which they respectively served, or to which they
19 were appointed, and in which they last served, and the relationship of each dependent to the
20 veteran on the account.”