

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1336**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Viriato M. deMacedo***

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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 veteran allowance for public retirees.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Viriato M. deMacedo*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Plymouth and Barnstable*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1336**

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By Mr. deMacedo, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1336) of Viriato M. deMacedo for legislation relative to the veteran allowance for public retirees. Public Service.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act relative to the veteran allowance for public retirees.

*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. Paragraph (b) of subdivision (2) of section 5 of chapter 32 of the General  
2 Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting in line 131 after  
3 the word “dollars” the following words:-

4                   ; or upon acceptance of paragraph (b 1/2) fifty dollars.

5           SECTION 2. Paragraph (b) of subdivision (2) of section 5 of said chapter 32, as so  
6 appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting in line 133 after the word “dollars” the  
7 following words:- or upon acceptance of paragraph (b 1/2) one thousand dollars.

8           SECTION 3. Subdivision (2) of section 5 of said chapter 32 is hereby further amended by  
9 inserting the following new paragraph:-

10           (b 1/2) Upon acceptance of this provision by a retirement system, any member of Group  
11 1 or group 2 or Group 4, who is a veteran as defined in section one, shall receive, in lieu of  
12 paragraph (b), an additional yearly allowance of fifty dollars for each year of creditable service

13 or fraction thereof; provided, that the total amount of said additional retirement allowance shall  
14 not exceed one thousand dollars in any case. Acceptance of this provision by a retirement system  
15 shall be by a majority vote of the board of each such system, subject to the approval of the  
16 legislative body. For the purposes herein, “legislative body” shall mean, in the case of a city, the  
17 city council in accordance with its charter, in the case of a town, the board of selectmen, in the  
18 case of a county, the county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region, the  
19 regional retirement board advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members, and, in  
20 the case of an authority, the governing body. Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon  
21 the filing of a certification of such votes with the commission. For purposes herein, the state  
22 teachers’ and state employees’ retirement systems shall be deemed to have accepted this  
23 provision.

24 SECTION 4. Paragraph (e) of subdivision (2) of section 7 of the General Laws, as  
25 appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting in line 149 after the dollar  
26 amount “\$15” the following words:- or upon acceptance of paragraph (f) \$50.

27 SECTION 5. Subdivision (2) of section 7 of said chapter 32 is hereby further amended by  
28 inserting the following new paragraph:-

29 (f) Upon acceptance of this provision by a retirement system, any member of Group 1 or  
30 group 2 or Group 4, who is a veteran as defined in section one, shall receive, in lieu of paragraph  
31 (b), an additional yearly allowance of fifty dollars for each year of creditable service or fraction  
32 thereof; provided, that the total amount of said additional retirement allowance shall not exceed  
33 one thousand dollars in any case. Acceptance of this provision by a retirement system shall be by  
34 a majority vote of the board of each such system, subject to the approval of the legislative body.

35 For the purposes herein, “legislative body” shall mean, in the case of a city, the city council in  
36 accordance with its charter, in the case of a town, the board of selectmen, in the case of a county,  
37 the county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region, the regional retirement  
38 board advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members, and, in the case of an  
39 authority, the governing body. Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon the filing of a  
40 certification of such votes with the commission. For purposes herein, the state teachers’ and  
41 state employees’ retirement systems shall be deemed to have accepted this provision.

42 SECTION 6. Paragraph (c) of subdivision (3) of section 26 of said chapter 32, as  
43 appearing in the 2012 official Edition, is amended by deleting in line 124 the dollar amount  
44 “\$15”and inserting in place thereof the following dollar amount:- \$50.

45 SECTION 7. Paragraph (c) of subdivision (3) of section 26 of said chapter 32, as so  
46 appearing, is further amended by deleting in line 126 the dollar amount “\$300”and inserting in  
47 place thereof the following dollar amount:- \$1,000.

48 SECTION 8. The provisions of this act shall be prospective from the date of acceptance  
49 of this act and shall not entitle a member, who is entitled to the benefits provided under this act,  
50 to any retroactive benefits.