

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1435**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Jerald A. Parisella***

*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.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jerald A. Parisella</i>	<i>6th Essex</i>	<i>1/18/2017</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/24/2017</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	
<i>Daniel Cahill</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>	
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1435**

By Mr. Parisella of Beverly, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1435) of Jerald A. Parisella and others relative to the veteran allowance for public retirees. Public Service.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)

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 2014 Official Edition, is amended by inserting in line 138 after the  
3 word “dollars” the following words:- or upon acceptance of paragraph (b 1/2) fifty dollars.

4 SECTION 2. Paragraph (b) of subdivision (2) of section 5 of said chapter 32, as so  
5 appearing, is further amended by deleting in line 141 the words “in any case” and in-serting in  
6 place thereof the following words:- or upon acceptance of paragraph (b 1/2) one thousand  
7 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 fifty dollars for each year of creditable service or

13 fraction thereof; provided, that the total amount of said additional retirement allowance shall not  
14 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 town meeting, in the case of  
18 a county, the county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region, the regional  
19 retirement board advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members, and, in the case  
20 of an authority, the governing body. Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon the  
21 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 2014 Official Edition, is amended by inserting in line 160 after the dol-lar  
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 forty-five dollars for each year of creditable service or  
32 fraction thereof; provided, that the total amount of said additional retirement allowance shall not  
33 exceed nine hundred dollars in any case. Acceptance of this provision by a retirement system  
34 shall be by a majority vote of the board of each such system, subject to the approval of the

35 legislative body. For the pur-poses herein, “legislative body” shall mean, in the case of a city, the  
36 city council in ac-cordance with its charter, in the case of a town, the town meeting, in the case  
37 of a coun-ty, the county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region, the regional  
38 retirement board advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members, and, in the case  
39 of an authority, the governing body. Acceptance shall be deemed to have oc-curred upon the  
40 filing of a certification of such votes with the commission. For purpos-es herein, the state  
41 teachers’ and state employees’ retirement systems shall be deemed to have accepted this  
42 provision.

43 SECTION 6. Paragraph (c) of subdivision (3) of section 26 of said chapter 32, as  
44 appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is amended by deleting in line 124 the dollar amount  
45 “\$15”and inserting in place thereof the following dollar amount:- \$45.

46 SECTION 7. Paragraph (c) of subdivision (3) of section 26 of said chapter 32, as so  
47 appearing, is further amended by deleting in line 134 the dollar amount “\$300”and inserting in  
48 place thereof the following dollar amount:- \$1,000.

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