

HOUSE No. 4982

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
, MA

KARYN POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

November 27, 2018

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 8, Paragraph 1, Clause (2) of the Amendments to the Constitution, as appearing in Article LXXXIX of said Amendments, I am filing for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, "An Act Relative to the Retirement Benefits of Sean M. Gannon, a Fallen Police Officer in the Town of Yarmouth."

I am filing this special legislation on behalf of the Yarmouth Board of Selectmen and its Town Administrator.

Every day, courageous men and women risk their lives to serve and protect our communities. Sergeant Sean M. Gannon did just that and was killed in the line of duty earlier in April of this year. While no monetary measure will ever properly compensate for the sacrifice that he and his family have made, the town of Yarmouth seeks to extend certain retirement benefits to Sergeant Gannon's widow. This legislation would direct the Barnstable County Retirement Board to calculate those benefits based upon his rank of Sergeant at the time of his death.

I urge your early and favorable consideration of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles D. Baker,
Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the retirement benefits of Sean M. Gannon, a fallen police officer in the town of Yarmouth.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, specifically
2 including any provision in subsection 100 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, and in order to
3 promote the public good, the retirement board of the county of Barnstable shall pay the line of
4 duty death benefit of Sean M. Gannon to his widow, Dara P. Gannon, calculated and based upon
5 his rank of Sergeant at the time of death.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of April 12, 2018.