

SENATE No. 1393

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Viriato M. deMacedo

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:	
<i>Viriato M. deMacedo</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	
<i>Mathew Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>

SENATE No. 1393

By Mr. deMacedo, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1393) of Viriato M. deMacedo, Mathew Muratore, David F. DeCoste, Donald F. Humason, Jr. and others for legislation relative to the veteran allowance for public retirees. Public Service.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1336 OF 2015-2016.]

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 inserting 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 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 ad-ditional 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 town meeting, in the case of a county, the
37 county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region, the regional retirement board
38 advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members, and, in the case of an authority,
39 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 2014 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 134 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.