

HOUSE No. 3759

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel J. Hunt

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 regarding the disability pension for Terry Cotton.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>	<i>4/21/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 3759

By Mr. Hunt of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3759) of Daniel J. Hunt (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the Boston Retirement Board be authorized to increase the accidental disability retirement allowance payable to Terry Cotton, a retired police officer of the city of Boston. Public Service. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act regarding the disability pension for Terry Cotton.

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 the provision of any general or special law or rule or
2 regulation to the contrary, and in order to promote the public good, the State-Boston Retirement
3 Board is hereby authorized and directed to increase the accidental disability retirement allowance
4 payable to Terry Cotton, a retired officer of the City of Boston who, as a result of injuries
5 sustained while in the performance of his duties on August 7, 2013, is totally and permanently
6 disabled from further service as a police officer.

7 Section 2. The total annual amount of pension payable to Terry Cotton shall be equal to
8 the regular rate of compensation which would have been paid had he continued in service as a
9 police officer of the City of Boston at the grade held by him at the time of his retirement, so long
10 as any income derived by Terry Cotton hereafter is not earned performing a sworn law
11 enforcement function or private security function with similar duties. The additional benefits
12 granted in this act shall be funded and administered by the Boston Retirement Board, consistent

13 with and subject to chapter 32 of the General Laws, except in regard to section 91A of said
14 chapter 32 the limit on the amount that Terry Cotton's annual earnings, when added to his
15 retirement allowance, may exceed without refund penalty the amount of regular compensation
16 which would have been payable to him if he had continued in service as a police officer in the
17 City of Boston in the grade held by him at the time he was retired, shall be set at \$100,000 rather
18 than \$15,000. All amounts paid under this shall be nontaxable.

19 (a) Such increase in retirement shall become effective commencing on the date for which
20 he received an accidental disability retirement from the State-Boston Retirement Board.

21 (b) Upon enactment, the State-Boston Retirement Board shall forthwith pay to said Terry
22 Cotton the amount credited to him as accumulated total deductions in the annuity savings fund of
23 the State-Boston Retirement Board. Said Terry Cotton shall be entitled to receive
24 indemnification for all hospital, medical and related expenses that have been or may be incurred
25 after the date of his retirement as a result of said injuries, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter
26 41 of the General Laws.

27 Section 3. Upon the death of Terry Cotton, should his wife survive him, the State-Boston
28 Retirement Board shall pay her an annuity in the amount of three-fourths of the amount of the
29 pension payable to him, per month, at the time of his death. In the event that both Terry Cotton
30 and his wife die before their children reach the age of eighteen (18) or twenty-two (22), as
31 provided herein, the payments that would otherwise be made to Terry Cotton pursuant to Section
32 2 shall be payable, in equal shares, to each child under the age of eighteen (18); provided,
33 however, that payments shall continue to the age of twenty-two (22) for any child who is
34 enrolled as a full-time student.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon passage.