

SENATE No. 3153

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John C. Velis

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 retirement of Greg Heath, a former firefighter to the city of Westfield.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

John C. Velis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Hampden and Hampshire

SENATE No. 3153

By Mr. Velis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3153) of John C. Velis (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation relative to the retirement of Greg Heath, a former firefighter to the city of Westfield. Public Service. [Local approval received]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the retirement of Greg Heath, a former firefighter to the city of Westfield.

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 chapter 32 of the General Laws or any other general or
2 special law to the contrary affecting the noncontributory or contributory retirement system in the
3 commonwealth, the Westfield retirement board shall allow Greg Heath, a retired member, the
4 option of retiring for accidental disability retirement under section 7 of chapter 32 from any
5 condition of impairment of health caused by Parkinson's Disease. Said member shall notify said
6 board within 90 days of the effective date of this act of his acceptance of this option.

7 SECTION 2. The payments provided for in this act shall only be made after said member
8 has been examined by a medical panel, pursuant to section 6 of chapter 32 of the General Laws,
9 which has certified by a majority of the medical panel physicians that said member is mentally or
10 physically incapacitated from further duty, that such incapacity is likely to be permanent, and
11 that such incapacity is such as might be the natural and proximate result of Parkinson's Disease;
12 provided, however, that the public employee retirement administration commission may, upon

13 request, waive such medical panel examination if the member has previously been examined by
14 a medical panel and is receiving a disability benefit as of the effective date of this act. The
15 commission shall promptly notify the retirement system of such waiver.

16 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.