

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1677**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Brendan P. Crighton***

*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 cost of living adjustment for state and teacher retirees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1677**

By Mr. Crighton, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1677) of Brendan P. Crighton and Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation relative to the cost of living adjustment for state and teacher retirees. Public Service.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1487 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to the cost of living adjustment for state and teacher 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. Section 102 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
2   Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:- (h) Every  
3   member of the state employee retirement system and the teacher’s retirement system who  
4   qualifies and has attained fifteen full years of retirement as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year  
5   who receive a cost of living increase shall receive an additional one hundred dollar benefit to  
6   said increase. Said one hundred dollar benefit shall be granted only to members of the state  
7   retirement system and the teacher’s retirement system whose total annual retirement benefit is  
8   less than the average annual retirement benefit as determined by the retirement system’s most  
9   recent actuarial valuation and retired with twenty or more years of creditable service, provided  
10   however, those members who retired with a disability benefit under sections 6, 7 or 26 shall be

11 eligible with less than twenty years of creditable service. Any surviving beneficiary of a  
12 deceased member who would otherwise be eligible for aforesaid additional benefit under this  
13 paragraph, including those beneficiaries receiving a benefit under sections 9, 12 or 101, shall  
14 receive said additional benefit if it is determined they are eligible by the retirement board in  
15 which they are a participant.

16 Every member of the state employee retirement system and the teacher's retirement  
17 system who has attained twenty full years of retirement as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year who  
18 receive a cost of living increase shall receive an additional two hundred dollar benefit to said  
19 increase. Said two hundred dollar benefit shall be granted only to members of the state retirement  
20 system and the teacher's retirement system whose total annual retirement benefit is less than the  
21 average annual retirement benefit as determined by the retirement system's most recent actuarial  
22 valuation and retired with twenty or more years of creditable service. Any surviving beneficiary  
23 of a deceased member who would otherwise be eligible for aforesaid additional benefit under  
24 this paragraph, including those beneficiaries receiving a benefit under section 9, 12 or 101, shall  
25 receive said additional benefit if it is determined they are eligible by the retirement board in  
26 which they are a participant.

27 SECTION 2. Section 103 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
28 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following paragraphs:-

29 (k) Upon acceptance of the provisions of this paragraph as provided in paragraph (n),  
30 every member of a retirement system other than the state employees retirement system and the  
31 teachers' retirement system, who has attained fifteen full years of retirement as of June 30 of the  
32 prior fiscal year and receives a cost of living increase pursuant to this section, shall receive an

33 additional one hundred dollar benefit to said increase. Said one hundred dollar benefit shall be  
34 granted only to members of a retirement system, other than the state employees retirement  
35 system and the teachers' retirement system, whose total annual retirement benefit is less than the  
36 average annual retirement benefit as determined by their retirement system's most recent  
37 actuarial valuation and retired with twenty or more years of creditable service, provided  
38 however, those members who retired with a disability benefit under sections 6, 7 or 26 shall be  
39 eligible with less than twenty years of creditable service. Any surviving beneficiary of a  
40 deceased member who would otherwise be eligible for aforesaid additional benefit under this  
41 paragraph, including those beneficiaries receiving a benefit under sections 9, 12 or 101, shall  
42 receive said additional benefit if it is determined they are eligible by the retirement board in  
43 which they are a participant.

44 (l) Upon acceptance of the provisions of this paragraph as provided in paragraph (n),  
45 every member of a retirement system other than the state employees retirement system and the  
46 teachers' retirement system, who has attained twenty full years of retirement as of June 30 of the  
47 prior fiscal year and receives a cost of living increase pursuant to this section, shall receive an  
48 additional two hundred dollar benefit to said increase. Said two hundred dollar benefit shall be  
49 granted only to members of a retirement system other than the state employees retirement system  
50 and the teachers' retirement system whose total annual retirement benefit is less than the average  
51 annual retirement benefit as determined by their retirement system's most recent actuarial  
52 valuation and retired with twenty or more years of creditable service, provided however, those  
53 members who retired with a disability benefit under sections 6, 7 or 26 shall be eligible with less  
54 than twenty years of creditable service. Any surviving beneficiary of a deceased member who  
55 would otherwise be eligible for aforesaid additional benefit under this paragraph, including those

56 beneficiaries receiving a benefit under sections 9, 12 or 101, shall receive said additional benefit  
57 if it is determined they are eligible by the retirement board in which they participate.

58 (m) Upon acceptance of the provisions of this paragraph as provided in paragraph (n),  
59 every member of a retirement system other than the state employees retirement system and the  
60 teachers' retirement system, who has attained fifteen but not more than twenty full years of  
61 retirement as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year and receives a cost of living increase pursuant to  
62 this section, shall receive an additional one hundred dollar benefit and for those who has attained  
63 more than twenty years of retirement as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year, shall receive an  
64 additional two hundred dollar benefit to said increase. Such additional benefits shall be granted  
65 only to members of a retirement system, other than the state employees retirement system and  
66 the teachers' retirement system, whose total annual retirement benefit is less than the average  
67 annual retirement benefit as determined by their retirement system's most recent actuarial  
68 valuation and retired with twenty or more years of creditable service, provided however, those  
69 members who retired with a disability benefit under sections 6, 7 or 26 shall be eligible with less  
70 than twenty years of creditable service. Any surviving beneficiary of a deceased member who  
71 would otherwise be eligible for aforesaid additional benefit under this paragraph, including those  
72 beneficiaries receiving a benefit under sections 9, 12 or 101, shall receive said additional benefit  
73 if it is determined they are eligible by the retirement board in which they are a participant.

74 (n) Acceptance of the provisions of paragraphs (k). (l) or (m) shall be by a majority vote  
75 of the board of such system, subject to the approval of the legislative body. For the purpose of  
76 this section, "legislative body" shall mean, in the case of a city, the city council in accordance  
77 with its charter, in the case of a town, the town meeting, in the case of a district, the district  
78 members, and, in the case of an authority, the governing body. In the case of a county or region,

79 acceptance shall be by the county or regional retirement board advisory council at a meeting  
80 called for that purpose by the county or regional retirement board, Acceptance of this paragraph  
81 shall be deemed to have occurred upon the filing of the certification of such vote with the  
82 commission. A decision to accept the provisions of this paragraph may not be revoked.