

HOUSE No. 4518

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 4, 2024.

The committee on Public Service, to whom were referred the annual report of the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (under sections 21, 102 and 103 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws) relative to the percentum change in the average cost-of-living as shown by the United States consumer price index for the year 2023 compared with such index for the year 2022 (House, No. 48); the communication from the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission PERAC (under the provisions of Section 50 of Chapter 7 of the General Laws) submitting proposed amendments to the rules and regulations governing retirement of public employees in Massachusetts (840 CMR 3.00 and 13.00) (House, No. 49); the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2429) of Brian M. Ashe relative to establishing an elected and appointed board for the Hampden County Regional Retirement System; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2430) of Brian M. Ashe and Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., relative to pay parity for county correctional officers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2432) of Bruce J. Ayers relative to the retirement group of the secretary and undersecretaries of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2433) of Bruce J. Ayers, Deborah B. Goldberg (Treasurer and Receiver General) and Lindsay N. Sabadosa relative to public employee retirement group classifications; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2434) of Christine P. Barber, Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Sal N. DiDomenico relative to retirement system investments in certain corporations utilizing environmental, social, and corporate governance policies; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2438) of F. Jay Barrows that the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System be authorized to credit Diane Galanti with certain creditable service benefits; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2439) of Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., relative to evaluations on certain veterans retired for disability; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2440) of Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., relative to increasing the amount of hours that retired

public employees may work for certain additional public service; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2441) of Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., relative to increasing the police and fire retirement age from 65 to 67; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2444) of David Biele for legislation to further define the term “legislative body” relative to retirement boards in cities and towns; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2445) of David Biele relative to post retirement earnings and hours limitations for certain professional services; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2446) of David Biele and Natalie M. Blais relative to the employment of attorneys by county retirement boards; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2449) of Natalie M. Blais relative to non-membership service in public safety for certain uniformed members of paid fire or police departments; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2450) of Antonio F. D. Cabral and others relative to public pension fund divestment from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2451) of Daniel Cahill relative to certain persons enrolled in the alternative superannuation retirement program; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2452) of Daniel Cahill relative to the disability retirement law for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2454) of Daniel Cahill relative to creditable service for retirement purposes for service in the armed forces of the United States; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2457) of Peter Capano relative to collective bargaining of employment, assignment and promotion for employees of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2459) of Gerard J. Cassidy and Steven S. Howitt for legislation to grant creditable service time for Massachusetts National Guard service; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2460) of Tackey Chan for legislation to define the word “person” for retirement purposes; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2464) of Tackey Chan and David Holway relative to employees of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority under the retirement law for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2465) of Tackey Chan and David Holway relative to the monthly premium rate for the group health and medical insurance plan for employees of the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2466) of Tackey Chan and David Holway relative to attorney services or management consultants for services performed for collective bargaining or issues arising from collective bargaining contracts; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2467) of Tackey Chan and David Holway relative to expenses

incurred in defending against unfair labor practices; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2468) of Tackey Chan and David Holway for legislation to provide that decisions of the Labor Relations Commission in representation cases shall be subject to judicial review; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2470) of Tackey Chan and David Holway relative to placing certain employees of the Department of Transportation in Group 2 of the contributory retirement system for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2471) of Tackey Chan and David Holway for legislation to eliminate Group 1 of the contributory retirement system for public employees and reclassify persons currently classified in said group to Group 2; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2472) of Tackey Chan and David Holway for legislation to include sewerage treatment plant operators for the Department of Correction in Group 2 of the public employee retirement system; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2473) of Tackey Chan and David Holway relative to placing licensed electricians employed by the Commonwealth in Group 4 of the contributory retirement system for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2474) of Tackey Chan and David Holway for legislation to include certain co-generation steam firemen and engineers in Group 4 of the contributory retirement system for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2477) of Tackey Chan and David Holway relative to injuries sustained in service of probation officers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2480) of Mike Connolly and others relative to the divestment of state pension funds from nuclear weapons; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2481) of Rob Consalvo and others relative to the Group Insurance Commission Trust Fund; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2482) of Rob Consalvo relative to the retirement group of certain licensed pipefitters and refrigeration technicians; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2484) of Mark J. Cusack and Patrick M. O'Connor relative to retirement benefits for Brian P. Costello, Jr; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2485) of Mark J. Cusack relative to creditable service for contract work by certain public retirees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2498) of Marjorie C. Decker, Lindsay N. Sabadosa and David Paul Linsky relative to collective bargaining rights of teachers and other school employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2499) of David F. DeCoste for legislation to authorize employees of the South Shore Charter School to join the state employees retirement system; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2500) of Angelo L. D'Emilia

relative to directing the State Retirement Board to pay a certain retirement benefit to Virginia Wise, the surviving spouse of Raymond Wise, an officer of the Bridgewater State College Police Department; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2503) of Mindy Domb and others for legislation to require the public pension fund to divest from ammunition and firearms; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2509) of Paul J. Donato and Paul McMurtry for legislation to place certain employees in the Department of Fire Services in Group 4 of the contributory retirement system for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2510) of Michelle M. DuBois and others relative to the retirement benefits of certain employees of the Department of Public Health; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2513) of Tricia Farley-Bouvier, Vanna Howard and Mary S. Keefe relative to the membership of the board of the Group Insurance Commission; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2514) of Tricia Farley-Bouvier and others relative to pension benefits for surviving spouses of Department of Children and Families social workers killed in the line of duty; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2517) of Ann-Margaret Ferrante and Deborah B. Goldberg (Treasurer and Receiver General) relative to employees whose compensation is sourced from the deferred compensation program SMART Plan; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2519) of Christopher Richard Flanagan relative to the retirement classification of harbor masters; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2521) of Paul Nordberg relative to the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System benefit calculation; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2524) of Sean Garballey for legislation to include certain employees in the Massachusetts Department of Transportation in Group 2 of the contributory retirement system for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2525) of Sean Garballey relative to retirement benefits for court service coordinators; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2526) of Sean Garballey relative to the retirement classification of certain court employees and other employees whose duty and responsibilities bring them in contact with criminal defendants; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2538) of Susan Williams Gifford, Colleen M. Garry and Angelo L. D'Emilia relative to increasing the amount of earnings that a retired public employee may be paid for certain additional public service; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2542) of Danielle W. Gregoire relative to the participation of surviving spouse beneficiaries in contributory retirement board elections; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2544) of Richard

M. Haggerty relative to court officers injured in service of the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2545) of Richard M. Haggerty relative to line-of-duty death and survivor benefits for police officers and firefighters; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2551) of James K. Hawkins and Angelo L. D'Emilia that the State Board of Retirement be directed to grant an increased accidental disability retirement allowance to Howard S. Levine; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2552) of James K. Hawkins, Danillo A. Sena and Michelle M. DuBois relative to cancer presumption for police officers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2553) of James K. Hawkins for legislation to provide certain employees in the Department of Correction with line-of-duty death benefits; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2554) of James K. Hawkins relative to minimum staffing discussions in collective bargaining negotiations of municipal police officers and firefighters; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2559) of Russell E. Holmes relative to compensation of members of the General Court; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2561) of Daniel J. Hunt for legislation relative to pension parity; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2562) of Daniel J. Hunt relative to the definition of regular interest for retirement systems; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2563) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others relative to the Group Insurance Commission and Medicare health benefit supplement plans; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2564) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others relative to establishing a universal public employee sick leave bank policy; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2566) of Patrick Joseph Kearney relative to retirement and pensions during the COVID 19 pandemic; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2568) of Patrick Joseph Kearney relative to retirement eligibility for certain Group 4 retirees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2570) of Kay Khan relative to authorizing the granting of certain creditable service to Robin Blatt, a member of the state employees' retirement system; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2572) of Meghan Kilcoyne relative to benefits of employees who are required to respond to emergencies or work in hazardous environments; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2576) of Michael P. Kushmerek and Steven George Xiarhos relative to work limitations for municipal police retirees; the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2580) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf, Michael O. Moore and others relative to pensions for children of public safety officers killed in the line of duty; the petition (accompanied

by bill, House, No. 2582) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and others relative to health insurance benefits for certain state employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2584) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and others relative to health insurance for municipal employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2587) of Kate Lipper-Garabedian and Jason M. Lewis relative to the active service buy-back program for firefighters and police officers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2591) of Jay D. Livingstone, Deborah B. Goldberg (Treasurer and Receiver General) and Lindsay N. Sabadosa relative to requiring public pension fund divestment from ammunition and firearms; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2593) of John J. Mahoney relative to group insurance costs for certain public retirees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2596) of Joseph D. McKenna for an investigation by a special commission relative to the feasibility of replacing the defined benefit pension plan for public employees with a defined contribution plan for future employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2597) of Joseph D. McKenna relative to credible service in the retirement system for elected officials; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2599) of Paul McMurtry relative to applications for public employee retirement system creditable service buy backs for veterans; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2600) of Paul McMurtry relative to veteran judges' pensions; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2602) of Paul McMurtry relative to state police pensions; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2603) of Paul McMurtry for legislation to further regulate the retirement benefits of certain public safety employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2606) of Lenny Mirra relative to student loan payments for those working in law enforcement; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2607) of Lenny Mirra for legislation to authorize tuition reimbursements for students seeking a degree in criminal justice; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2608) of Lenny Mirra relative to retirement benefits for certain elected officials; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2609) of Rady Mom relative to the retirement group of University of Massachusetts, Massport police, and state university and community college police; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2613) of Mathew J. Muratore and Kathleen R. LaNatra relative to the retirement of Charles Bletzer, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2614) of James M. Murphy relative to the retirement earnings and benefits of certain senior justices; the petition (accompanied by bill,

House, No. 2617) of James J. O'Day, Daniel M. Donahue and Sal N. DiDomenico relative to authorizing the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and the Department of Early Education and Care to establish an individual retirement account program for personal care attendants; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2619) of James J. O'Day and Daniel M. Donahue relative to authorizing certain public employees' creditable retirement service; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2620) of James J. O'Day and others relative to public higher education collective bargaining funding; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2621) of James J. O'Day and Daniel M. Donahue relative to the retirement benefits of certain employees of the Department of Children and Families; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2623) of Steven Owens relative to creditable service for certain state contract employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2624) of Steven Owens relative to appeals to the Contributory Retirement Appeal Board; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2629) of Alice Hanlon Peisch relative to the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund Board of Directors; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2632) of Edward R. Philips that the Massachusetts State Retirement Board provide a certain pension to Mary Coulter-Bennett, the surviving beneficiary of former State Police Detective Lieutenant William Coulter; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2636) of Edward R. Philips that the State Board of Retirement provide a certain pension allowance to Cynthia Smith Wilder, the surviving spouse of Kevin Wilder; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2639) of Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., and Brian M. Ashe relative to retirement credit for private or parochial school teaching; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2641) of Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., relative to providing for special death benefits to fallen public safety officers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2642) of Orlando Ramos relative to retirement systems and pensions for correctional officers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2644) of David Allen Robertson and Rodney M. Elliott relative to the Group 4 and Group 2 retirement classifications of the University of Massachusetts police; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2645) of David Allen Robertson relative to the retirement of public authority law enforcement employee groups; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2646) of David Allen Robertson that the State Retirement Board grant certain creditable service for retirement purposes to Stephen Gerald Roche; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2647) of David Allen Robertson and Vanna Howard relative to injured and incapacitated

state-employed police officers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2651) of Daniel J. Ryan relative to the funding ratio of the public employee retirement system; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2655) of Paul A. Schmid, III and William M. Straus (with the approval of the county commissioners) that the Bristol County Retirement Board grant creditable service to Michael Cioper; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2656) of Danillo A. Sena and Vanna Howard relative to benefits for certain firefighters; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2658) of Alan Silvia relative to providing prescription drug cost reimbursements to certain retirees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2659) of Alan Silvia and Paul A. Schmid, III relative to retirement for disability or death caused by certain conditions of cancer to certain explosive device canine handlers and bomb technicians; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2660) of Alan Silvia relative to payment of pensioners for services after retirement; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2663) of Todd M. Smola and Paul J. Donato relative to authorizing Brian Cardrant to purchase creditable service from the Worcester Regional Retirement System; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2664) of Todd M. Smola for legislation to provide the next of kin of state police officers killed in the line of duty with a flag during memorial services; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2666) of Todd M. Smola that police officers of the Office of Environmental Law Enforcement be included under the “heart law”, so-called; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2668) of Alyson M. Sullivan-Almeida and David F. DeCoste relative to the retirement benefits of certain public safety employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2669) of Alyson M. Sullivan-Almeida and others relative to COVID-19 mandatory vaccinations and immunization passports for public employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2670) of Chynah Tyler for legislation to authorize the State Board of Retirement to grant Bernard Wheeler, an employee of the Boston Municipal Court, an additional retirement benefit of four years of creditable service; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2676) of Erika Uytterhoeven relative to certain investments of the Massachusetts Pension Reserve Investment Management; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2684) of Bud L. Williams relative to public employee retirement and pensions for certain veterans; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2685) of Steven George Xiarhos that certain employees of the Massachusetts Port Authority be included in Group 4 of the contributory retirement system for public employees; the petition

(accompanied by bill, House, No. 2686) of Steven George Xiarhos that the State Board of Retirement be directed to grant an increased accidental disability retirement allowance to Lieutenant Virginia E. Cummings of the town of Bourne; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2687) of Steven George Xiarhos and others relative to fair worker representation on joint purchasing group committees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3640) of Kip A. Diggs and Steven George Xiarhos for legislation to impose a surcharge on certain retirement earnings to be used for recreational opportunities; the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3647) of Tricia Farley-Bouvier and Paul W. Mark relative to authorizing June Tooley, an employee of Berkshire Community College, to become a member of the State Employees Retirement System; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3649) of Sean Garballey relative to teachers' retirement funds; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3650) of Vanna Howard relative to the withdrawal of local subscribers from the Group Insurance Commission; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3718) of Marjorie C. Decker (with the approval of the city council) relative to expanding the definition of dependent for the purposes of municipal employee benefits in the city of Cambridge; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3793) of Mark J. Cusack for legislation to provide local option for retirement boards to grant retirement to totally and permanently incapacitated workers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3794) of Christopher Richard Flanagan relative to higher education incentives for certain municipal employees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3851) of William M. Straus and others for legislation to provide funding of certain collective bargaining agreements; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3857) of Carmine Lawrence Gentile for legislation to provide retirement incentives in public higher education; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3892) of William M. Straus that the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement Board be directed to grant creditable service to Eileen Mullen for certain service rendered at the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3898) of Jack Patrick Lewis relative to creditable service for retirement purposes for certain employees who served in more than one retirement group; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3925) of David Allen Robertson relative to work hours for state retirees; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3987) of Ruth B. Balser, Cynthia Stone Creem and Kay Khan (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to retired fire fighters in the city of

Newton; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4060) of Natalie M. Blais relative to the rate of vacation time for certain employees of the Commonwealth who are veterans and buyback creditable service; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4069) of Marc T. Lombardo relative to retiree work hours and pay limits; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4095) of Simon Cataldo relative to the retirement classification of Kurt Babick, an employee of the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No.4247) of Paul McMurtry that the State Retirement Board provide a lifetime monthly allowance to Katherine M. McGuinness, the surviving spouse of former state police officer James T. McGuinness; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4248) of Paul McMurtry relative to survivor benefits for the spouses of retired state troopers, reports recommending that the accompanying order (House, No. 4518) ought to be adopted [Senator Fattman dissents].

For the committee,

KENNETH I. GORDON.

HOUSE No. 4518

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



House of Representatives, April 4, 2024.

1 *Ordered,* That the committee on Public Service be authorized to sit during a recess of the
2 General Court to make an investigation and study of House documents numbered 48, 49, 2429,
3 2430, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452,
4 2454, 2457, 2459, 2460, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2477,
5 2480, 2481, 2482, 2484, 2485, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2503, 2509, 2510, 2513, 2514, 2517, 2519,
6 2521, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2538, 2542, 2544, 2545, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2559, 2561, 2562,
7 2563, 2564, 2566, 2568, 2570, 2572, 2576, 2580, 2582, 2584, 2587, 2591, 2593, 2596, 2597,
8 2599, 2600, 2602, 2603, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2613, 2614, 2617, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2623,
9 2624, 2629, 2632, 2636, 2639, 2641, 2642, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2651, 2655, 2656, 2658,
10 2659, 2660, 2663, 2664, 2666, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2676, 2684, 2685, 2686, 2687, 3640, 3647,
11 3649, 3650, 3718, 3793, 3794, 3851, 3857, 3892, 3898, 3925, 3987, 4060, 4069, 4095, 4247 and
12 4248, relative to pensions, collective bargaining, spousal benefits and other public service issues.

13 Said committee shall report to the General Court the results of its investigation and study
14 and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such

- 15 recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the Clerk of the House of Representatives
- 16 on or before December 31, 2024.