

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2823**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kimberly N. Ferguson***

*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 providing killed in the line of duty benefits to Joanne Songy, surviving spouse of Detective John D. Songy, a police officer of the town of Rutland.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/13/2025</i>
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>Worcester and Hampshire</i>	<i>1/13/2025</i>
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2823**

By Representative Ferguson of Holden, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2823) of Kimberly N. Ferguson, Peter J. Durant and Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., for legislation to provide killed in the line duty benefits to Joanne Songy, surviving spouse of Detective John D. Songy, a police officer of the Town of Rutland. Public Service.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**

An Act providing killed in the line of duty benefits to Joanne Songy, surviving spouse of Detective John D. Songy, a police officer of the town of Rutland.

*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 any general or special law to the contrary, the Worcester  
2 regional retirement board shall pay to Joanne Songy, surviving spouse of detective John D.  
3 Songy, a police officer in the town of Rutland who died from complications related to COVID-  
4 19, benefits pursuant to section 100 of chapter 32 of the General Laws; provided, however, that  
5 all amounts paid hereunder shall be non-taxable to the extent allowable under state law.

6           SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the state board  
7 of retirement shall pay to Joanne Songy, surviving spouse of detective John D. Songy, a police  
8 officer in the town of Rutland who died from complications related to COVID-19, benefits  
9 pursuant to section 100A of chapter 32 of the General Laws; provided, however, that all amounts  
10 paid hereunder shall be non-taxable to the extent allowable under state law.

11           SECTION 3. This act shall take effect as of May 29, 2020.