

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Paul McMurtry***

*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 veteran judges' pensions.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2600 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to veteran judges' pensions.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           Notwithstanding sections 65A, 65B and 65D of chapter 32 of the General Laws, or any  
2 other general or special law to the contrary, a retired chief justice, justice, associate justice,  
3 judge, associate judge, or special justice, hereinafter referred to as a judge, who: (i) is a veteran  
4 who served in the armed forces of the United States, (ii) was called into duty in the armed forces  
5 of the United States while seated as a judge, and served at least 90 days in active duty in the  
6 armed forces of the United States while seated as a judge, (iii) retired at the age of 70 under  
7 Article LVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution with at least 10 years of continuous judicial  
8 service or resigned after serving in office for at least 15 years continuously and attaining the age  
9 of 65 years, and (iv) currently receives a pension related to such service as a judge, shall be  
10 eligible for an increase in their pension to receive a pension for life at an annual rate equal to  
11 three fourths of the current annual rate of regular compensation of a judge currently serving in

12 the same or similar position as the retired judge held at the time of their retirement, calculated as  
13 of the date of the application for pension increase, beginning on the date such application was  
14 approved by the retirement board pursuant to the second paragraph. A judge who retired at age  
15 70 under Article LVII of the Amendments to the Constitution with less than 10 years of  
16 continuous judicial service who otherwise meets the requirements of this act shall be eligible to  
17 receive an increase in their pension by calculating such pension based on the current annual rate  
18 of regular compensation of a judge currently serving in the same or similar position as the retired  
19 judge held at the time of their retirement, calculated as of the date of the application for pension  
20 increase, beginning on the date such application was approved by the retirement board pursuant  
21 to the second paragraph.

22           Within 30 days after the effective date of this act, the state retirement board shall notify  
23 all retired judges collecting a pension pursuant to chapter 32 of the General Laws, in writing by  
24 certified mail, of the opportunity to apply for an increase in their pension pursuant to this act.  
25 Said judges shall have 30 days after receipt of said notice to make application for such pension  
26 increase, which shall include information, as the retirement board deems necessary, to determine  
27 eligibility pursuant to this act. The retirement board shall make a determination on any  
28 application submitted pursuant to this act within 30 days after receipt of such application, and  
29 shall notify the applicant of such determination in writing not later than 10 days after such  
30 determination is made.