

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Brendan P. Crighton***

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*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 enhancing cost of living adjustment for certain long term career public retirees.

\_\_\_\_\_

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Brendan P. Crighton*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Third Essex*

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

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1629 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to enhancing cost of living adjustment for certain long term career public 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. Paragraph (c) of section 102 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is amended by striking out in lines 34, 38 and 46 the  
3 dollar amount “\$13,000”, and inserting in place thereof the following dollar amount: - \$18,000.

4 SECTION 2. Section 102 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
5 amended by adding at the end thereof the following:- (h) Every member of the state employee  
6 retirement system and the teacher’s retirement system who qualifies and has attained fifteen full  
7 years of retirement as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year who receive a cost of living increase  
8 shall receive an additional one hundred dollar benefit to said increase. Said one hundred dollar  
9 benefit shall be granted only to members of the state retirement system and the teacher’s  
10 retirement system whose total annual retirement benefit is less than the average annual

11 retirement benefit as determined by the retirement system's most recent actuarial valuation and  
12 retired with twenty or more years of creditable service, provided however, those members who  
13 retired with a disability benefit under sections 6, 7 or 26 shall be eligible with less than twenty  
14 years of creditable service. Any surviving beneficiary of a deceased member who would  
15 otherwise be eligible for aforesaid additional benefit under this paragraph, including those  
16 beneficiaries receiving a benefit under sections 9, 12 or 101, shall receive said additional benefit  
17 if it is determined they are eligible by the retirement board in which they are a participant.

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

29 SECTION 3. Section 103 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
30 amended by adding at the end thereof the following:- (k) Upon acceptance of the provisions of  
31 this paragraph as provided in paragraph (n), every member of a retirement system other than the  
32 state employees retirement system and the teachers' retirement system, who has attained fifteen  
33 full years of retirement as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year and receives a cost of living increase

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

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

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

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

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

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