

SENATE No. 1044

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mr. Donnelly

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the annual allowance for widows and widowers of certain public employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Mr. Donnelly	Fourth Middlesex
Thomas M. McGee	Third Essex and Middlesex
Anthony D. Galluccio	Middlesex, Suffolk and Essex
William N. Brownsberger	24th Middlesex
James R. Miceli	19th Middlesex
Theodore C. Speliotis	13th Essex
Mark V. Falzone	9th Essex
Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk
Pam Richardson	6th Middlesex
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ANNUAL ALLOWANCE FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS OF CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES.

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 12 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting in line 212 after the words “two hundred and fifty dollars a month” the
3 following words:-

4 or five hundred dollars a month, whichever is applicable to such spouse.

5 SECTION 2. Section 12 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
6 inserting after line 221 the following paragraph:-

7 Beginning July first, two thousand and nine, the normal monthly member-survivor allowance provided
8 for under this option to a spouse of a deceased member shall not be less than five-hundred dollars for
9 members of the state teachers’ and state employees’ retirement system. The provisions of this paragraph
10 shall take effect for the members of a retirement system of any other political subdivision by a majority
11 vote of the board of such system and by the local legislative body. For the purpose of this paragraph,
12 local legislative body shall mean a town meeting for a town system, the city council subject to the
13 provisions of its charter for a city system, the county retirement board advisory council for a county
14 system, the regional retirement board advisory council for a regional system, the district members for a

15 district system and the governing body of an authority for an authority system. Acceptance shall be
16 deemed to have occurred upon the filing of a certification of such vote with the commission.

17 SECTION 3. Section 101 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
18 inserting in line 8 after the words “six thousand dollars,” the following words:-

19 or in the amount of nine thousand dollars in a retirement system accepting the supplemental annual
20 allowance provided for by this section.

21 SECTION 4. Section 101 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
22 by inserting at the end thereof the following words:-

23 Any retirement system may accept the supplemental annual allowance, provided for by this section and
24 fixed at the rate of nine thousand dollars, by a majority vote of the board of each such system, subject to
25 the approval of the legislative body. For the purposes of this section, “legislative body” shall mean, in the
26 case of a city, the city council in accordance with its charter, in the case of a town, the town meeting, in
27 the case of a county, the county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region, the regional
28 retirement board advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members, and, in the case of an
29 authority, the governing body. Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon the filing of a
30 certification of such votes with the commission. For purposes of this section, the state teachers’ and state
31 employees’ retirement systems shall be deemed to have accepted the supplemental annual allowance
32 provided for by this section.