

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2416

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By Mr. Lawton of Brockton, petition of James R. Lawton relative to providing pensions for widows of employees of cities and towns under the non-contributory retirement system. Pensions and Old Age Assistance.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO PROVIDING PENSIONS FOR WIDOWS OF EMPLOYEES OF CITIES AND TOWNS UNDER THE NON-CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

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

1 Chapter 32 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
2 inserting after section 97 the following section: —

3 *Section 98.* Any employee of a city or town who is eligible  
4 for superannuation retirement under any non-contributory  
5 retirement plan, in effect in the city or town in which he is  
6 employed shall have the right at the time of his retirement to  
7 elect one of the following options for the payments of his  
8 pension: —

9 *Option A.* The full yearly amount of pension payable  
10 under the provisions of such system, to such employee on the  
11 date of his retirement.

12 *Option B.* A lesser amount of yearly pension which shall  
13 be payable to such employee during his lifetime, with a pro-  
14 vision that one half of the yearly amount of such lesser pen-  
15 sion shall be continued during the lifetime of and paid to his  
16 widow. The yearly amount of such lesser pension shall be  
17 determined so that the value, on the date the retirement and

18 pension becomes effective, of the prospective payments to  
19 such employee and to such widow shall be the actuarial  
20 equivalent of the value on such date of the full pension  
21 specified in option A of this section. If an employee who has  
22 served continuously for not less than twenty years in any  
23 city or town where he would be eligible for superannuation  
24 retirement under a non-contributory retirement plan in effect  
25 in the city or town where he was employed, dies before being  
26 retired, his widow shall receive one half of the yearly amount  
27 of the pension provided for under option B of this section if  
28 his retirement had taken place on the date of his death. Said  
29 yearly amount shall be paid to such a widow so long as she  
30 remains unmarried; provided, that she has been married to  
31 such employee not less than ten years prior to his death, and  
32 that they were living together at the time of his death, or  
33 living apart for justifiable cause other than desertion or  
34 moral turpitude on the part of the wife.