

# HOUSE . . . . No. 823

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By Mr. McCarthy of Somerville, petition of the Massachusetts Permanent Firemen's Association that pensions payable to former police officers and firemen shall upon their decease be paid to their widows in certain cases. Pensions and Old Age Assistance.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Eight.

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AN ACT PROVIDING THAT PENSIONS PAYABLE TO FORMER POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREMEN SHALL, UPON THEIR DECEASE, BE PAID TO THEIR WIDOWS IN CERTAIN CASES.

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

1 The pension payable to any former police officer or  
2 fireman of a city or town, who shall have been re-  
3 tired under the provisions of a retirement system of  
4 such city or town, or under the provisions of a special  
5 law, shall, upon his decease, be paid to his widow so  
6 long as she remains unmarried; provided, that she  
7 was married to him more than ten years prior to his  
8 retirement.

## The Constitution of the State

In the first section of the first article of the Constitution of the State, it is provided that the executive power shall be vested in the Governor, who shall hold his office for a term of four years, and shall be eligible for re-election.

It is also provided that the Governor shall have the honor and power of pardon, and shall be the commander in chief of the State militia, and shall have the power to grant reprieves and commutations of sentence, and to pardon all crimes except treason and murder.

It is further provided that the Governor shall have the power to appoint and remove all officers and judges of the State, and to grant pardons and commutations of sentence, and to pardon all crimes except treason and murder.

The Governor shall also have the power to call the militia into service, and to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* in cases of rebellion or insurrection, or in cases of imminent danger to the public safety. It is also provided that the Governor shall have the power to grant pardons and commutations of sentence, and to pardon all crimes except treason and murder.