

SENATE No. 323

To accompany the petition of Robert Connoughton, Associated Fire Fighters of Mass. (A. F. of L.), for legislation relative to the retirement of members of police and fire departments who are veterans of the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection and World War I. Pensions and Old Age Assistance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE RETIREMENT OF MEMBERS OF POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHO ARE VETERANS OF THE SPANISH WAR, THE PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION AND WORLD WAR I.

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
2 by inserting after section 56, as amended, the follow-
3 ing section:—

4 *Section 56A.* A member of a police or fire depart-
5 ment of any city or town who has served in the army,
6 navy or marine corps of the United States in the
7 Spanish War or Philippine Insurrection between April
8 twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and
9 July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the world
10 war between April sixth, nineteen hundred and seven-
11 teen, and November eleventh, nineteen hundred and

12 eighteen, and has been honorably discharged from
13 such service or released from active duty therein, in
14 sections fifty-six to sixty, inclusive, called a veteran,
15 shall be retired, if permanently disabled, mentally or
16 physically, by injuries sustained or illness incurred
17 through no fault of his own in the actual performance
18 of his duty at two thirds of the highest salary or other
19 compensation received by him while holding the
20 grade held by him at the time of his retirement, in-
21 cluding any allowance for maintenance, payable from
22 the same source; or any member, herein defined as a
23 veteran, with the consent of the retiring authority,
24 who has performed faithful service for at least ten
25 years, at an annual pension equal to one half of the
26 highest salary or other compensation received by him
27 while holding the grade held by him at the time of his
28 retirement and an additional amount equal to one
29 per cent of said compensation for each year of service
30 after twenty years, provided, that the total amount
31 of such pension shall in no case exceed sixty-five per
32 cent of his annual compensation, but, including any
33 allowance for maintenance, payable from the same
34 source; provided he has a total income from all
35 sources, exclusive of such retirement allowance and
36 any sum received from the government of the United
37 States as a pension for war service, not exceeding five
38 hundred dollars.

39 Any allowance for maintenance referred to in this
40 section shall be in an amount equal to the value thereof
41 as fixed by the retiring authority in such city or town.