

By Mr. Piro of Somerville, petition of Vincent J. Piro that certain benefits available to dependents of veterans be extended to include the widows of United States servicemen. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS FOR WIDOWS OF UNITED STATES SERVICEMEN KILLED IN ACTION DURING WARTIME.

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 5 of chapter 115 of the General Laws is hereby amended
2 by striking paragraph 6 and inserting in place thereof the following
3 new paragraph six:—

4 All benefits available to dependents of veterans as provided by
5 this chapter shall be extended to the mother or widow of any
6 member of the armed forces of the United States whose death
7 occurred as the result of injury sustained or disease contracted
8 during active service in time of war or insurrection, including
9 active service in said armed forces under the flag of the United
10 Nations; provided, that such a mother or widow qualifies in her
11 own right as to the requirements of residence notwithstanding the
12 failure of the deceased veteran to so qualify at the time of his death
13 and notwithstanding lack of proof of the actual dependency of
14 such a mother or widow upon such a veteran at the time of his
15 death. Such benefit shall include payment of reasonable medical
16 and hospital expenses in accordance with regulations adopted by
17 the commissioner and directives issued and promulgated by him;
18 provided, that no back benefits shall be paid beyond the date of
19 application.

