

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2614**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*James M. Murphy*

*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act creating the office of senior justice in the judicial branch.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/12/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2614**

By Representative Murphy of Weymouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2614) of James M. Murphy relative to the retirement earnings and benefits of certain senior justices. Public Service.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2741 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act creating the office of senior justice in the judicial branch.

*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 22 of chapter 211 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after the first sentence the following: - A chief justice or an associate  
3 justice who has served fifteen years in a judicial office shall be designated as a senior justice and  
4 receive an additional annual salary increment of \$5,000. The office of senior justice shall be  
5 deemed a judicial office as comprehended under the provisions of Article I of Chapter 111 of  
6 Part the Second of the Constitution.

7 SECTION 2. Section 2 of chapter 211A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
8 amended by inserting after the first sentence the following: - A chief justice or an associate  
9 justice who has served fifteen years in a judicial office shall be designated as a senior justice and  
10 receive an additional annual salary increment of \$5,000. The office of senior justice shall be

11 deemed a judicial office as comprehended under the provisions of Article I of Chapter 111 of  
12 Part the Second of the Constitution.

13 SECTION 3. Section 4 of chapter 211B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
14 amended by inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraph: - Any justice of the trial  
15 court who has served fifteen years in a judicial office shall be designated as a senior justice and  
16 receive an additional annual salary increment of \$5,000. The office of senior justice shall be  
17 deemed a judicial office as comprehended under the provisions of Article I of Chapter 111 Part  
18 the Second of the Constitution.

19 SECTION 4. The provisions of this act shall be credited to the pension of the senior  
20 justice upon his or her retirement in accordance with the provisions of Section 65D of Chapter 32  
21 of the General Laws.