

HOUSE No. 2675

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shaunna L. O'Connell and Geoff Diehl

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 relative to transparency in the MBTA Retirement Fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>

HOUSE No. 2675

By Representatives O'Connell of Taunton and Diehl of Whitman, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2675) of Shaunna L. O'Connell, Geoff Diehl and David F. DeCoste that the Executive Office of Administration and Finance include the MBTA Retirement Fund in a searchable database. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to transparency in the MBTA Retirement Fund.

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. (a) Section 14C of chapter 7 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “higher education” the words:-
3 “the MBTA Retirement Fund”.

4
5 (b) Section 14C of chapter 7 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official
6 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “federal assistance” the sentence:- “For
7 the purposes of this section, recipient shall include any legal entity receiving compensation or a
8 retirement allowance from the MBTA Retirement Fund, including, but not limited to, the MBTA
9 Retirement Fund’s employees, contractors, board members and retirement plan members.”

10

11 (c) Section 14C of chapter 7 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official
12 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (h) the following new subsection:- “(h
13 1/2) (1) The searchable database shall be updated to include the items in subsection (b), if
14 applicable, relative to the MBTA Retirement Fund, as well as: (a) for each employee of the fund
15 and member of the retirement board, their name, title, current salary and total amounts paid each
16 year since 2006 inclusive; (b) for each retiree receiving an allowance from the fund, their name,
17 location, job title at retirement and total amount paid each year since 2006 inclusive; (c) for any
18 other legal or physical person not covered by any other provision of this subsection but receiving
19 payments from the fund, their name, location, capacity in which payment is disbursed, total
20 amount paid each year since 2006 inclusive and a brief explanation. (2) The MBTA Retirement
21 Fund shall provide the secretary all information necessary for the secretary to be considered in
22 compliance with this section.”

23 SECTION 2. Section 12 of Chapter 11 is hereby amended by inserting after the words
24 “general court” the words: “including any person, corporation, association, trust, partnership, the
25 MBTA Retirement Fund, or other legal entity which receives or expends public funds for the
26 payment or administration of pensions as defined in section 1 of chapter 32 for any current or
27 former employees of the commonwealth, any constituent unit or any political subdivision
28 thereof.”

29 SECTION 3. Section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
30 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the words “and the MBTA Retirement Fund”
31 after the words “any part thereof”.

32

33 SECTION 4. Section 22 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
34 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (g) the following new
35 subsection:- “(h) The MBTA Retirement Fund shall make accessible publicly on its official
36 website and at no cost to the user the minutes of its board meetings within seven days of the day
37 the meeting is held, except as provided in section 21.”

38

39 SECTION 5. Section 5 of chapter 268A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
40 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (b 1/2) the following new
41 subsection:- “(b 3/4) a former employee of the MBTA Retirement Fund who, within two years
42 after his last employment has ceased, appears personally before the MBTA Retirement Fund or
43 any of its employees and officials as agent or attorney for anyone other than the commonwealth
44 in connection with any particular matter in which the commonwealth, a state agency or the
45 MBTA Retirement Fund is a party or has a direct and substantial interest, or”