

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BRIAN WORRELL, TANIA FERNANDES
ANDERSON, RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, PEPÉN, SANTANA, AND WEBER

CITY OF BOSTON



IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

HOME RULE PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT TO AMEND THE TRAINING REQUIREMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CADET PROGRAM IN BOSTON

WHEREAS, Boston relies upon its fire department to provide protection to its residents; *and*

WHEREAS, Bostonians are left vulnerable to fires, natural disasters, and emergency events if the Boston Fire Department is unable to fully fill its ranks; *and*

WHEREAS, Chapter 242 in the acts of 2020 currently stipulates that cadets must complete two years of service before they may be appointed; *and*

WHEREAS, This limits the appointments of qualified candidates and hinders the ability of the Boston Fire Department to reach necessary staffing levels. **THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED, That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article II, as amended, of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, except for clerical or editorial changes of form only:

PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT TO AMEND THE TRAINING REQUIREMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CADET PROGRAM IN BOSTON

SECTION 1.

The first paragraph of Section 1 of Chapter 242 as appearing in the acts of 2020 is hereby amended by striking the words "2 years" in the last sentence and inserting in place thereof the following words: "1 year"

Said sentence shall now read:

"An appointment to a cadet program shall not be terminated for age unless the cadet has completed 1 year of service."

SECTION 2.

Said Chapter 242 of the Acts of 2020, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking the words “2 years” in Section 2 and inserting in place thereof the following words: “1 year”.

Said paragraph shall now read:

“Notwithstanding Chapter 31 of the General Laws, any person who has completed not less than 1 year of service as a fire cadet under this act may, subject to a program established by the fire commissioner of the City of Boston and approved by the personnel administrator of the human resources division within the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, be appointed to fill a vacancy in a position in the lowest grade in the fire force of the City of Boston without certification from an eligible list prepared under said Chapter 31; provided, however, that such a person is either on a fire entrance eligible list prepared under said Chapter 31 or passes a qualifying examination to be given by said personnel administrator.”

SECTION 3. PARTIAL INVALIDITY

If any provision of this Act or application thereof is held to be invalid or in conflict with Applicable Laws, this invalidity or conflict shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions and applications of this Act are severable.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take immediate effect upon its passage.

Filed in Council: 3/21/2024