

Offered by Councilor Michael Flaherty



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY THREE

### HOME RULE PETITION

**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 RELATIVE TO THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS OF THE SURVIVING  
BENEFICIARY OF ROBERT LAWLER**

*Section 1.* Notwithstanding section 12 of chapter 32 of the General Laws or any other general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the Boston Retirement Board shall provide to Donna Lawler, the surviving beneficiary of former Boston Police officer Robert Lawler, a lifetime, monthly allowance equal to the amount she would receive as if Robert Lawler had, upon retirement, elected option (c) of subdivision (2) of said section 12 of said chapter 32 and nominated Donna Lawler as his sole surviving eligible beneficiary; provided, however, that the retirement board shall withhold from each payment made to Donna Lawler during the first year of such payments, such an amount, in equal increments, as is necessary to account for the difference in the total amount Robert Lawler received pursuant to option (b) of said subdivision (2) of said section 12 from the date of his retirement to the date of his death and the total amount he would have received had he elected said option (c) from the date of his retirement to the date of his death. The allowance shall be payable as of the date of Robert Lawler's death.

*Section 2.* The provisions of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Section 3.* If any of the above sections are determined to not be constitutional under the law, the remainder of the provisions shall remain valid.

Filed in Council: January 6, 2023