

HOUSE No. 3225

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christina A. Minicucci

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 to allow veterans from Puerto Rico & U.S. Territories to receive equal treatment under Massachusetts law.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>

HOUSE No. 3225

By Ms. Minicucci of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3225) of Christina A. Minicucci and others relative to providing that benefits to veterans from Puerto Rico and United States territories are equal to the benefits of other veterans. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act to allow veterans from Puerto Rico & U.S. Territories to receive equal treatment under Massachusetts law.

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. Chapter 115 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 Section 15 the following new section:-

3 SECTION 16: (a) All veterans who served in the United States military who were born in
4 or served their military service in Puerto Rico or other United States territories shall be eligible
5 for all benefits and opportunities that are available to veterans who served in any other state or
6 commonwealth in the United States military.

7 (b) All widows or qualifying spouses of veterans who served in the United States military
8 who were born in or served their military service in Puerto Rico or other United States territories
9 shall be eligible for all benefits and opportunities that are available to the widows or qualifying
10 spouses of veterans who served in any other state or commonwealth in the United States military.