

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Rep. Gobi Announces Legislation to Increase Aid for Families of Public Safety Employees Killed in the Line of Duty**

*Will retroactively apply to the families of Lieutenant Walsh, Firefighter Kennedy, and Police Officer Maloney*

(BOSTON) – Representative Anne Gobi (D-Spencer) is proud to announce that the House of Representatives passed legislation that increases the benefits for families of public safety employees killed in the line of duty from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

This change represents the first increase in the benefit since 1994. It will retroactively apply to the families of Lieutenant Edward Walsh and Firefighter Michael Kennedy who were killed while fighting a fire on Beacon Street last week, and Plymouth Police Officer Gregg Maloney who was killed in the line of duty on April 1, 2014. These funds are included in a supplemental budget.

“Our firefighter, police officers and all those involved in public safety have a right to return safe to their families at the end of their shift,” said Rep. Gobi. “If that does not happen we have an obligation to make sure their families receive support and this is a small price to pay for the ultimate sacrifice that they made.”

The legislation passed the House 146-0.

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