

## Washington State School Retirees' Association

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May 18, 2018

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The Honorable Steve Conway Chair, Select Committee on Pension Policy 241 John A. Cherberg Building P.O. Box 40429 Olympia, WA 98504

Office of the State Actuary

Dear Senator Conway,

During the 2018 Legislative Session, the Select Committee on Pension Policy sponsored request legislation for a Plan 1 COLA. The bill recommended a 3% COLA on the first \$25,000 in pension income for all Plan 1 retirees.

The legislature passed an amended version of the bill that provided a 1.5% increase. The 2018 increase takes effect July 1<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately, inflation for 2018 is already projected to be 3.3%. Therefore, Plan 1 retirees will see a loss in purchasing power of 1.8% in 2018. That is added to the already substantial loss in purchasing power that has already been inflicted upon Plan 1 retirees.

We ask that the SCPP again resubmit the 2018 request legislation to the Washington State Legislature during the 2019 Legislative Session.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alan Burke Executive Director

cc: Aaron Gutierrez, Office of the State Actuary