



STATE OF WASHINGTON

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' AND FIRE FIGHTERS'
PLAN 2 RETIREMENT BOARD

P.O. Box 40918 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0918 • (360) 586-2320 • FAX (360) 586-2329

September 10, 2019

RECEIVED

SEP 10 2019

Dear Representative Joe Fitzgibbon:

Office of the State Actuary

The Law Enforcement Officer and Fire Fighter Plan 2 (LEOFF 2) Retirement Board requests that the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) coordinate on the following issues that potentially impact LEOFF 2 members, as well as members of the other Washington State retirement systems:

- **Month of Death** – In the month a retiree or survivor passes away, the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) prorates the last month benefit payment based on the number of days the person was alive in the month. Frequently this results in an invoice being sent to the family or estate to collect any amount that should have been prorated. Should the last month benefit payment be for the whole month, instead of being prorated?
- **Survivor Option Re-Election** – When members retire they must make an irrevocable election for a survivor benefit based on an estimate of what their retirement benefit will be. Sometimes the actual retirement benefit received is much different than what was estimated. Should members have an opportunity to change their survivor option after retirement?
- **No-Cost Interruptive Military Service Credit** – For purposes of receiving no-cost interruptive military service credit, the legislature has attempted to distinguish between service in combat zones and other types of service, however, the state law has continually resulted in inequities as not all service in combat zones qualifies for no-cost interruptive military service credit. Should the law be changed to ensure that all interruptive service in combat zones qualifies for no-cost interruptive military service credit?

The LEOFF 2 Board has received initial briefings on all three of these subjects and is currently scheduled to receive comprehensive presentations during our September 25, 2019 board meeting.

I appreciate your consideration to coordinate on these issues. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Lawson".

Dennis Lawson
Chair of the LEOFF 2 Board