
From: Diane Rauschenberg <dchickenlady@mytangledweb.com>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 7:30 AM
To: Office State Actuary, WA
Subject: PERS1 Retiree statement to Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) regarding a permanent yearly COLA for PERS 1 Retirees

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To the Select Committee on Pension Policy, I am a Pers1 Retiree who has over the years attended many hearing in Olympia regarding a COLA for Pers1 which had the hearing rooms filled to capacity. With testimony from retirees we were unsuccessful in obtaining a COLA. In 2021 I am asking that the Committee consider a proposal and forward a vote to provide a permanent yearly COLA. Plan 1 Retirees need a consistent and substantial COLA to prevent further loss of purchasing power. Living on a fixed income is difficult. The cost of health insurance and Medicare has continued to increase yearly. Our retirement pensions have not kept pace with inflation. I worked at Rainier School in Buckley for 40 years I never expected to work that long and hard as a public servant if not for the promise of a living retirement income which has not happened. Inflation has affected all aspects of life as a fixed income senior. I encourage the committee to please consider a permanent COLA for all PERS1 retirees.

I never thought that my pension would not cover my expenses where I had to choose between health care and food. Please vote to send to the legislature a recommendation to fund a permanent yearly COLA for PERS1 retirees.

Respectfully,

Diane Rauschenberg PERS1 Retiree

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