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**From:** SHIRLEY BRADFORD <bradford.sa@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:55 PM  
**To:** Office State Actuary, WA  
**Subject:** PERS 1 COLA benefit

**CAUTION:**External email.

Dear members of The Select Committee On Pension Policy:

I am a retired Washington State Public Employee, having retired from Snohomish County Public Utility District in 2004 under PERS 1. At the time I retired, I was given a PERS Plan 1 Member Handbook. The handbook has a section stating that once you have been retired at least one year and are age 66 or older, you qualify to receive the Uniform COLA and once you qualify you will receive your first benefit increase in the July following your 66<sup>th</sup> birthday and each July thereafter.

As you know, during the 2011 legislative session this benefit was removed. In 2018 and 2020 a small COLA was given, although with a cap. During the 11 years since the Uniform COLA was removed, the average cost of living has risen 2.11%. However, Washington State Public Employees under PERS 1 have only received a .09% increase if averaged over those past 11 years, with the 2021 inflation rate projected to be 5.99%.

I urge all members of this committee to do everything possible to reinstate a consistent and substantial Uniform COLA for all PERS 1 retirees.

Thank you for hearing me out on this very important issue...

Sincerely,  
Shirley A. Bradford  
PERS 1 Retiree

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