

From: [Jerry Cummins](#)
To: [Office State Actuary, WA](#)
Subject: July 2023 SCPP Meeting Communication: TRS-1/PERS-1
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:20:14 PM

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Greetings:

Please distribute this email to the following members of the SCPP Committee:

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I am a retired TRS-1 educator who spent 32 years teaching and being an administrator in the Public School System in Washington State. I retired in 2000 — 23 years ago. According to the CPI Inflation Calculator, I have lost 80% of purchasing power since retirement. **(\$1000.00 in 2000 equates to need of \$1801.00 in 2023)**

In contrast, since retirement, I have received a total of 10.5% increases (in 3 small amounts) since my 2000 retirement. **(\$1,000.00 = \$1,150.00)** I am 80 years old. It is difficult to seek part-time employment to help cover expenses. When I retired, gasoline was .72 cents a gallon —today I purchased gasoline at \$4.99 a gallon so I could take my wife to the hospital, if necessary, for her supra-ventricular tachycardia condition.

I want to note that during my 32 years of education and paying into my retirement system monthly, I paid into the retirement system faithfully, expecting a fair and honest retirement plan. The lack of funding for TRS-1/PERS-1 was not caused by the members but was caused by failure of the legislature to fund their portion of the retirement system. So, the question is simple, why penalize the members who faithfully paid into the system?

As inflation sores and retirees get older, it is time to provide TRS-1 and PERS-1 retirees the COLA they were promised and they deserve. It is time that retirees stop having to annually beg for what they are entitled to.

Please give TRS-1 and PERS-1 retirees what other retirement systems already have and what TRS-1 and PERS-1 are entitled to and should have had all along. *(I am sorry if this sounds a little forceful, but I really believe I am right and what has been said for several years.)*

Thank you for listening, reading and any contemplating the Committee might do the assist TRS-1 and PERS-1 retirees. Sorry about the length of this e-mail, but not having enough money is an important topic to me. **Equity is important to Seniors!**

Jerry Cummins
WWballoon@gmail.com
2133 S. 2nd Ave
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-386-5214

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