From: <u>Leonard Booth</u>

To: Office State Actuary, WA

Subject: Comments on an annual COLA for plan 1 for school retirees

Date: Monday, December 11, 2023 12:28:22 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I graduated from the University of Washington in 1964. My first position as a science teacher was at Coupeville Secondary School on Whidbey Island.. I taught there for two years and was recruited to North Thurston high school in Lacey, Washington where I taught for 28 yrs.

After completing 30 years of teaching, I retired in 1994 because it was apparent that the combination of state and local contracts would cause a loss of pay. I spent the next half year as a substitute teacher. At that time, there was a maximum days that a retired teacher was allowed to substitute; so I looked for other employment.

I am no longer able to work because in 2014 I had brain surgery and am unable to drive. That operation left me unable to properly maintain my home of 40years. We had to sell it and move into a retirement community. Unfortunately, each year we get a cost of living increase in monthly rent. After this combination of events, it is obvious why I strongly favor the idea of an annual COLA for those of us retired from state employment who still do not have one. Thank you!!

Sincerely, Leonard R. Booth 2424 Chambers Lake Lane Lacey. WA 98503

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