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**From:** NEVA C LUKE <BIGMOM2G@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 12:20 AM  
**To:** Office State Actuary, WA  
**Subject:** Need for Plans 1 COLA

**CAUTION:**External email.

To the Members of the SCPP,

My name is Neva Luke and I am on TRS 1. I retired in 2010 after teaching 30 years in the Issaquah District. I currently serve on the Legislative Committee for WEA-Retired. The purpose of my communication to you, is to ask that you and the SCPP work towards ensuring that Plans 1 retirees have a true COLA. This is an issue of equity, and justice and simply put, it is the right thing to do.

Not only have I experienced the financial effects of not having a true COLA, but I have also heard the stories of many retirees who are on Plans 1, including my own Mother. Some of these folks have been retired for more than 2 decades. I'm not going to repeat the history of the COLA or lack thereof for the folks on Plans 1 as the SCPP has been presented with excellent materials this fall that presents the history of the different plans, the few COLA's that have been issued to Plans 1, and how that compares to Plans 2 and 3.

Plan 1 retirees have lost 19% of their purchasing power if they retired in 2010. If they retired in the early 2000's, they have lost 40-50% of their purchasing power. Many seniors need medications, and some of these have increased a lot over the years. Health insurance premiums have gone up considerably over the years as well. Consider for a moment the choices that a retiree would have to make with this loss of buying power.

Of the three options presented to the SCPP, we feel Option A, annual, automatic CPI based Plan 1 COLA of up to 3 percent per year, is the best choice. It is quite important to understand that even with this option, Plans 1 retirees will not make up their losses, this will only help maintain the current purchasing power. If the legislature does not enact this option, plans 1 retirees will continue to fall behind

I appreciate whatever you can do to bring an annual, Plan 2/3 type COLA to Plans 1.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,  
Neva C Luke  
425-281-1885  
Snoqualmie, WA

Neva Luke  
425-281-1885

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