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**From:** Rich Washington <richwashington1177@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 9, 2021 12:06 PM  
**To:** Office State Actuary, WA  
**Cc:** kelly.houk@rpecwa.org  
**Subject:** Cost of living adjustment for PERS 1 retirees

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My name is Richard Washington. I am a retired state of Washington employee covered by the PERS 1 retirement plan. I worked for the state of Washington in the Department of Employment Security in 1976 and 1977, and also for the Department of Social and Health Services from 1985 through 2016, when I retired at age 65 and a half. I worked as a disability adjudicator, but mostly worked as a Support Enforcement Officer for the Division Of Child Support. My spouse works for the Department of Health Services and is currently employed. I have a teenage son who is currently a sophomore in high school and is taking driver's education classes and hopes to go to college. He is in the orchestra and plays the cello.

From my recollection, I have had only one cost of living increase in my PERS1 pension since I retired. This week I went grocery shopping, and the higher prices made it the most expensive non-holiday grocery trip ever. The property expenses I pay to the county increase year after year. The price of gasoline has increased as have my auto payments , due to a needed automobile replacement.

The state of Washington has a responsibility to its long term former employees that are covered by Pers1 retirement system. When I retired, the CPI inflation rate was less than 1%, currently it is nearing 6 percent.

I ask this committee to consider a much needed cost of living adjustment for Washington PERS 1 retirees so that they can continue to live in dignity.

Thank you for your time and consideration

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