
From: Betsy Peirce <sagebrsh@nwi.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:17 AM
To: Office State Actuary, WA
Subject: Need for a Permanent COLA

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Good Morning, I wanted to add my voice to those retirees of PERS 1 to request a permanent COLA. My example is not that unusual. I retired in 1997 when I was 52. And, please understand that I totally appreciate, and am grateful for my excellent pension plan, and acknowledge that more recently retired employees do not have my benefits. But also know that I worked extremely hard for DSHS as a social worker, and stayed with a difficult job partly because of the pension benefit. Part of my retirement package included a COLA when I became 65. However, as you know, that benefit was eliminated. So, the only COLA's I have received for my entire time of retirement have been those given to us, recently, I believe, twice? So, basically when I receive my check, it is very close to that same check I received when I retired. Oh.... except for the fact that my medical insurance premiums have increased from perhaps \$50 to approximately \$350 monthly. And, of course, the ever present inflation, further decreasing the value of my monthly pension. It just seems wrong to not allow a permanent COLA as was originally promised. I basically have been given a benefit that was intended for life 24 years ago. While, as I said, I do appreciate it, it is not what was promised to me.

Thank you for your consideration, Betsy Peirce
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