
From: Alan Rammer <tidepools51@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, November 12, 2021 12:09 PM
To: Office State Actuary, WA
Subject: Select Committee on Pension Policy meeting of November 16th: PERS 1 COLA

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Dear Select Committee Members for Pension Policy,

My name is Alan Rammer. I live in Aberdeen, Washington. I worked for the Washington Department of Fisheries, Washington Department of Game (Wildlife) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) from 1974-2009 (36 years). I am on PERS 1 retirement plan.

I have been informed that you will be meeting November 16th to consider an ongoing 3% COLA for retirees in this plan like the one PERS 2 and 3 plan members receive. We have not received anything consistent or substantial to cover for inflation for many years now and inflation is quickly leaving our dwindling numbers in the dust as they juggle what costs to pay and what costs they can do without.

In order to keep up with the rapidly rising prices in groceries, health care, property taxes, car maintenance, and utilities; I am having to forgo what many might consider luxury items (both day trips and travel/flying to see friends and family afar, gardening, gifts for children and grandchildren, and the like). I do not feel it is fair for our legislators to be balancing the state budget on the backs of PERS 1 members while the other retirees do receive COLAS on a regular basis to cover inflation.

I do not want to live in fear of losing my home because I cannot afford property taxes or being able to keep nutritious groceries on the table. I dedicated the best years of my life to serving the citizens of Washington State in my role as an outreach educator and spokesman for WDFW regarding marine resource issues. I won numerous awards, regionally and state wide, for being frugal with state dollars and for my ability to serve the citizens of this state with honesty and integrity.

Please support a permanent, ongoing 3% COLA for PERS 1 members. Thank you or your efforts and support.

Alan Rammer
(360) 532-9614

Sent from my iPad

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