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**From:** John Smith <jmyronsmith@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2021 11:19 PM  
**To:** Office State Actuary, WA  
**Subject:** plan 1 COLA

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Dear Committee Members:

I am President of chapter 8 of RPEC serving Skagit, Island and San Juan counties. I happen to be a Plan 2 retiree and have greatly benefited from the COLAs that are activated by increases in the Consumer Price Index up to 3% when that index shows increases in the cost of living. Without those COLAs my financial situation would have deteriorated significantly.

My Plan 1 colleagues in RPEC have had the opposite of my situation: For example:

One is the wife of a Plan 1 TRS retiree who has two master's degrees and taught Community College full-time for more than 30 years, but never earned more than \$37,000 per year. His retirement is based on that meager salary as my PERS 1 colleague's retirement is based on her comparatively low salary.

Since the average annual retirement payment for PERS 1 is around \$26,000, it is clear that recipients need a COLA.

2022 is the year for reinstatement of the very minimal COLA that Plan 1 members had every right to expect when they retired years ago.

It should be an annual, recurring COLA.  
Thank you.

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