
From: Janice Larsen <olyjan@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Office State Actuary, WA
Subject: Committee on PERS 1 COLA

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To my legislators making decisions regarding passage of the PERS 1 COLA:

I am a 74 year old constituent who has now been retired from state government for twelve years. Twelve years without a cost of living increase in my pension.

I began working for the State of Washington in 1971, part time, in the "Welfare Office" as it was then known, in Bellingham. I was still in college, carrying a full time load and also working 4 hours every afternoon. Once I graduated I worked a temporary position in Olympia until I obtained a permanent Caseworker position in Tacoma. From that point until I retired (the first time!) I promoted and carried increasingly responsible positions. After 33 years I retired to take a temporary position at the Social Security Administration. When that was completed, I went back to DSHS and continued to work until 2009. A total of nearly 36 years of service. For that, I feel that I and others with my dedication deserve the consideration of a livable pension in retirement.

I do not enjoy any benefits from my late husband as his PERS 1 pension and Social Security Disability benefits stopped when he died. I do have additional burdens as have my adult, disabled daughter living in my home. I could readily find worthy uses of whatever cost of living improvements might be made in my pension.

Please support passage of the long-sought COLA for PERS 1 retirees.

Thank you for your support,

Janice Larsen
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