
From: Jim Davison <pjdavison47@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:09 PM
To: Office State Actuary, WA
Subject: New Property Tax information received

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Select Committee on Pension Policy members:

In my May 3, 2021 email some property tax information was stated incorrectly—percent increases were undervalued—and we just received our new valuation from the assessor’s office. In the 40 years since building the home its assessed valuation has increased 291%—previously unheard of in our small, rural community in SE Washington. Our assessed home value increased another 23% from just two years ago. No, there were no improvements made.

This problem is not isolated to our area of the state, as I’m sure committee members can attest. Anyone living on a fixed income—including school retirees such as myself—are experiencing the same problem. As stated in my earlier email, it is becoming increasingly difficult for those of us on a fixed income in TRS 1 and PERS 1 that rely on the legislature for increases in retirement income. There have only been two since my 2005 retirement unlike the automatic annual COLAs granted to other state retirement plans.

Please consider the latest property tax hikes statewide when considering a COLA for those of us in TRS 1 and PERS 1, and make these plans more equitable with the rest.

Sincerely,

Jim Davison
PO Box 425
Waitsburg, WA 99361-0425

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