

From: [Robert Roseth](#)
To: [Office State Actuary, WA](#)
Subject: PERS1 COLA
Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 10:23:21 AM

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Please support the awarding of a cost of living increase in the coming biennium to retired workers in the PERS1 program.

I am 72 and worked as a state employee (UW) for more than 35 years. I started at the UW during the waning days of PERS1. Of course, you have accurate numbers of the age of my cohort. The numbers are shrinking by more than 500 a year, as I recall. Many of these individuals (not I) are dependent on PERS for the bulk of their support. As these individuals age, they are faced with growing health challenges and often need supportive services, such as assisted living, that by and large is not covered by Medicare. The cost of these services is growing fast and will continue to grow with recent labor shortages.

In sum, these older individuals on a fixed income are caught in a financial squeeze. I understand that numbers will drive the decision of whether or not to award a COLA. But please look at this from a humanitarian perspective. People who were public employees for the bulk of their working life should not live in a state of anxiety regarding their future welfare.

Thank you for your time.

Robert Roseth

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Ivy is a Weed, my first novel, is available at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), your independent book store or through [indiebound.com](https://www.indiebound.com). Or you can obtain a signed copy directly from me. Reviewed as "outstanding" by Publisher's Weekly.

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