

From: tsac1@frontier.com
To: [Office State Actuary, WA](#)
Subject: Permanent Plan COLA For TRS 1 Retirees
Date: Sunday, October 2, 2022 6:06:17 PM

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Dear Select Committee On Pension Policy

This note is to thank you for working on a permanent COLA for TRS1 teacher retirees in the State of Washington. Although I am a bit disappointed with the limited scope of your recommended bill draft, I'm hoping that some sort of serious study will be in place soon for a permanent plan COLA in 2023 for us.

I am a TRS1 retiree that taught Middle School, Elementary School and High School Driver Education in the Everett Public Schools for 41 years. I enjoyed teaching. It was my life. As an in-car instructor in Everett Public Schools, I've taught around 3,000 students to drive safely on our streets and highways for 25 of those 41 years. If you were ever a teacher, you'd agree with me that it is hard work and only a dedicated individual lasts to make it their career.

Since I've retired (seven years ago), I've seen my retirement check eroded each year by inflation, yet other State retirees (firemen etc.) have permanent COLAs in place to take care of this problem. Why haven't TRS1 retirees been granted a permanent COLA like the other State retirees?

The bottom line is that health costs and property taxes are up, gasoline costs are up, heating and food bills are continually going up. Even with a three percent temporary increase in our retirement checks, the money we worked hard for over the years is being eroded away.

I am confident that you are able to find a way to fund the TRS1 retirees in this State with a permanent COLA and I'm hoping it will happen soon.

Thanks again for your hard work on our behalf and to take the time to read this letter addressed to you. It's difficult to grow older with a limited income that isn't keeping pace with inflation.

Respectfully,

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