
From: Jim Davison <pjdavison47@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2022 12:59 PM
To: Office State Actuary, WA
Cc: Conway, Sen. Steve
Subject: Plan 1 COLA

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Dear Chair Conway and committee members:

While the three previous Plan 1 ad-hoc COLAs may have kept pace with inflation in a single year they have obviously not kept up since my 2005 retirement from teaching. Another example of that just arrived in the mail today.

According to the Walla Walla County Assessor the “improvements” to our home in the last year have increased its value by 25%. That’s on top of increasing the value of the “improvements” by 30% last year!

I’d appeal the 55% increase but it would do not good. Though we’ve made no “improvements” in the last two years folks from outside our small, rural community have purchased property here at inflated prices which inflates the value of ours, as you know. And so long as we can afford to live in the home we built in the 70s, the inflated taxes on the inflated value will continue to increase—even if we make no improvements!

We are, as are all property owners, at the mercy of those purchasing property in the vicinity of ours at inflated prices. Even if we do nothing the cycle will continue.

This is just another example of why a permanent COLA is needed for members of Plans 1—PERS and TRS, even if it must come after paying off the UALL which was created by previous legislators failing to make the necessary payments to the DRS for these plans.

Sincerely,

Jim Davison
PO Box 425
Waitsburg, WA 99361-0425

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