

From: [Bruce Boyer](#)
To: [Office State Actuary, WA](#)
Subject: COLA's for Plan 1 members in TRS and PERS
Date: Monday, October 16, 2023 11:09:46 AM

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The Honorable Joe Fitzgibbon Chair and other Committee members
Select Committee on Pension Policy
339A Legislative Building
P.O. Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504

My name is Bruce Boyer and I retired in 2004 after 34 years teaching in the Washington public school system. During that time, I have received the following COLA's: 2018 1.5%; 2020 3%; 2022 3%; 2023 3%, for a grand total of 10.5%. During this time, according to the CPI inflation calculator, I have lost 62.25% of my purchasing power. As you can tell from the above, I am having a hard time keeping my family's finances above water. I am asking that you consider recommending to the Legislature a reasonable COLA for the coming year. Secondly, I know that the legislature has started a process to look into the no annual COLA for Plan 1 TRS and PERS members. These are the only two state retirement plans that don't have an automatic COLA and this needs to be rectified as soon as possible. Until then, others like me will be further squeezed by inflation.

Thanks for your consideration,
Bruce Boyer
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Stanwood, WA 98292

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