

From: [Jerry Cummins](#)
To: [Office State Actuary, WA](#)
Subject: PERS-1/TRS-1 Retirement Plans / Constituent Correspondence
Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 2:39:58 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Greetings to Members of the State Select Committee on Pension Policy:

I know your group works hard to support retired employees of Washington State, and I appreciate your committees efforts. I want to thank you for the support of a one-time 3% COLA for Plan 1 PERS and TRS during the 2022 Legislative Session.

Although I am very grateful, inflation has far exceeded 3%. Next session, retired PRS1 teachers need a greater COLA. As you know, TRS/PERS Plan-1 retirees have only had three increases in over a decade so our purchasing power continues to decrease even with the recent 3% forthcoming raise we will see in June. Again, not discounting the 3% received this year, TRS/PERS Plan 1 recipients need to catch up from previous years.

For your knowledge, since retiring in 2000, I have received only the following three increases to my retirement:.) That was 22 years ago!

2018 was 1.5% capped at \$62.50 (actual figure about \$42.50 monthly)

2020 was 3% capped at \$62.50 (actual figure about \$62.50 monthly)

2022 was 3% capped at \$110.00 (anticipate about \$84.00 monthly)

An increase of \$189.00 a month or a total of \$2,268.00 annually since retiring 22 years ago! Certainly doesn't come close to keeping up to inflation!

Obviously, PERS/TRS-1 retirement plans have not kept up with any of the other retirement plans. While I was an active member of my retirement system, I paid a full contribution into my retirement system, expecting to participate like other retirees in the State. Unfortunately, it has not happened.

Gerald Cummins
WWballoon@gmail.com
2133 S. 2nd Ave
WallaWalla WA 99362
509-386-5214

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Legislature. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.