

From: [Jim Davison](#)
To: [Office State Actuary, WA](#)
Subject: Thank you!
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As pointed out in previous messages, since retiring in 2005 my purchasing power has declined over 60%. Had it not been for the five capped ad-hoc Plans 1 COLAs my monthly benefit would likely be the basic minimum, currently \$78.50 times the member's total years of service (YOS). I'm not sure if the YOS are limited to 30, as it was for Plans 1 retirees when figuring initial benefits. I've not seen that specifically stated. It is hoped my actual 36 YOS would be used.

There is little doubt that without an annual COLA many more members will eventually end up receiving the basic minimum benefit. At least then they will get an annual COLA in an effort to keep up with inflation. Unfortunately the intervening loss of purchasing power has made it difficult, if not impossible, for many Plans 1 retirees to keep up with the ever-increasing cost of property taxes, drugs, food, fuel, utilities, etc.

While any of the three options being consider would be an improvement, Option 2 has advantages both for retirees as well as for those administering since it would be consistent with other Washington State plans.

Thank you for looking at the options.

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