

**From:** [Gutierrez, Aaron](#)  
**To:** [Halverson, Beth](#)  
**Cc:** [Aslakson, Melinda](#); [Burkhart, Kelly](#); [Wallis, Keri](#); [Diaz, Cristina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SCPP Correspondence  
**Date:** Monday, May 15, 2023 10:57:47 AM

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CAUTION: External email.

Hello,

Below is correspondence I received for consideration during SCPP interim deliberations.

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**From:** Peter Diedrick <[peter@wssra.org](mailto:peter@wssra.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 8, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** Guerin, Tracy (DRS) <[tracy.guerin@drs.wa.gov](mailto:tracy.guerin@drs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** SCPP Correspondence

External Email

Director Guerin,

As the SCPP meets to determine its focus during the interim, the Washington State School Retirees' Association would ask that you consider the following:

First, under the recently passed SB 5350, SCPP has a specific directive. The bill reads: "NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. During the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium, the select committee on pension policy will study and recommend an ongoing cost-of-living adjustment for beneficiaries of the public employees' retirement system plan 1 and the teachers' retirement system plan 1. Any recommendation must consider employer contribution rate stability and coordinate the effective date of an ongoing cost-of-living adjustment with the reduction or elimination of the unfunded accrued actuarial liability."

Clearly, this task should be an area of committee focus during the interim.

A second, but related matter is to consider recommending a 2024 ad hoc Plan 1 COLA to the legislature. During House and Senate debate on the 2023 COLA bill, support for adding a COLA during the second half of the biennium was apparent. Although budget concerns made that impractical for the just-concluded session, legislators overwhelmingly are interested in assuring that Plan 1 retirees do not have the purchasing power of their pensions further eroded. As you know, with 6% to 8% inflation and 3% COLAs Plan 1 retirees are falling further and further behind. The support and recommendation of the SCPP is a critical first step in advancing this legislation.

This matter is of the highest priority to school retirees. Please give serious consideration to this request.

Alan Burke & Peter Diedrick  
WA State School Retirees Association

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