



## **We Need Your Help to help pass a COLA**

### **The Time for Action is Now**

We are reaching out to our members for one very important reason. We need everyone's help and the time to act is now. We are urging the Pennsylvania General Assembly to act now as part of the Pennsylvania Budget process.

### **Current Status**

Working with our Lobbying Team at Triad Strategies, we believe that the General Assembly is actively considering a COLA this year, and hopefully prior to the passage of the Pennsylvania State Budget. We believe that we need to let the members of the Pennsylvania House of Representative know that we support a COLA for retired Public School Employees. Language for a COLA has been drafted. We need to contact State Representatives prior to the end of the budget process (June 30, 2022).

### **How to locate and contact your State Representative.**

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/>

If you do not know who currently represents you, your address will identify that person.

### **Once you locate your state rep – here are the various ways to contact them:**

1. Phone call to the legislator's local office.

2. Phone call to the legislator's Harrisburg office.
3. Personal visit to legislator's local office.
4. Email to office.
5. Communication on Facebook page.
6. Communication on Twitter.
7. Email to State Representative from their Web Page.

We have attached "**Talking Points**" to use in your communications. You can use a theme that is comfortable to you, or you can use a basic suggested message.

**Here is a basic message:** It has been 20 years since the last Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and inflation has reduced the value of that pension by about 50% during that time. Now that there is a surplus, there is no better time to act. We really need your help.

### **Overall Themes to Use When Communicating with Members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly**

1. Please do not be overly "aggressive" or demanding in asking for support for a COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment). Respectful is a better methodology.
2. Please mention that we (PASR) recognize the challenges that lawmakers/elected officials have each year when it comes time to pass the state budget.
3. Others have seen increases since 2002, but not public school retirees.
4. Please refer to the WHP-21 CBS affiliate article regarding a COLA (included in this packet of information).

<https://local21news.com/news/local/school-retirees-push-for-cola-increase-after-21-years-of-stagnation>

5. We understand that this is not a simple or easy request, and it will cost money.

**\*\* This activity is VERY important to seeking to pass COLA legislation. \*\***

Please contact the PASR office if you need help or assistance. THANK YOU!

Mark McKillop-Executive Director

PASR Board of Directors

---

## **PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL RETIREES**

(717) 697-7077  
[PASR@PASR.ORG](mailto:PASR@PASR.ORG)  
[Contact Us](#)

878 CENTURY DRIVE  
MECHANICSBURG,  
PA 17055  
[www.pasr.org](http://www.pasr.org)

MONDAY - FRIDAY  
8:30 A.M. UNTIL 4:30  
P.M.

