

Office of the State Actuary

"Securing tomorrow's pensions today."

June 17, 2010

Kelly Fox, Chair
Law Enforcement officers' and Fire Fighters' Plan 2 Retirement Board
PO Box 40918
Olympia, WA 98504-0918

Dear Mr. Fox

Thank you for your letter to the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) dated June 14, 2010. This correspondence was received in the Office of the State Actuary (OSA) on June 14, 2010


OSA is a non-partisan agency providing technical assistance to the legislative and executive branches, as well as staff support to the SCPP. The SCPP usually meets only during the interim months between sessions.

During the interim, correspondence to the SCPP is typically found in the Executive Committee's meeting materials under the agenda item entitled "Constituent Correspondence." Any correspondence received during the 2010 Session will also be included in the executive meeting materials for the first meeting of the 2010 Interim.

Each year the SCPP receives many requests to study various issues or make specific recommendations to the legislature. All suggestions are made known to the Committee. You can view the SCPP agendas, track the progress of issues studied by the Committee, and find the yearly recommendations made to the Legislature by visiting the SCPP website at <http://www.leg.wa.gov/SCPP/default.htm>.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the SCPP.

Sincerely,


Keri Wallis

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' AND FIRE FIGHTERS'
PLAN 2 RETIREMENT BOARD

P.O. Box 40918 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0918 • (360) 586-2320 • FAX (360) 586-2329

June 28, 2010

Select Committee on Pension Policy
C/O The Office of the State Actuary
Post Office Box 40914
Olympia, Washington 98504-0914

Dear Honorable Members of the Select Committee on Pension Policy:

On behalf of the Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' Plan 2 Retirement Board (LEOFF 2 Board), I would like to follow-up on an issue that was discussed during the June 16, 2010 LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board meeting.

In a letter dated June 14, 2010, I requested the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) and LEOFF 2 Board work cooperatively on the topics of Purchase of Annuity and Furloughs. I would now like to add the topic of Negative COLA for your consideration during the 2010 interim. I have provided a brief summary below:

Negative COLA

Under the current law, a retired member is entitled to a cost of living adjustment (COLA) effective July 1, after they have been retired for one year. The potential exists for a retired member's monthly pension to be reduced if there is negative inflation (deflation).

Please feel free to contact me or Steve Nelsen, LEOFF 2 Board Executive Director, should you have any questions or would like additional information. Steve can be reached at (360) 586-2320 or steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov, and I can be contacted at (360) 943-3030 or pres@wscff.org.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss any of the topics at an upcoming SCPP or LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board meeting. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Fox, Chair

cc: Matt Smith, State Actuary



Office of the State Actuary

"Securing tomorrow's pensions today."

June 30, 2010

Kelly Fox, Chair
Law Enforcement officers' and Fire Fighters' Plan 2 Retirement Board
PO Box 40918
Olympia, WA 98504-0918

Dear Mr. Fox

Thank you for your letter to the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) dated June 28, 2010. This correspondence was received in the Office of the State Actuary (OSA) on June 30, 2010

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Thank you for your interest in the work of the SCPP.

Sincerely,

Keri Wallis

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WASHINGTON STATE PATROL TROOPERS ASSOCIATION

200 UNION AVE. SE STE. 200, OLYMPIA, WA 98501 (360) 704-7530 FAX (360) 704-7527

Kelly Fox, Chair
LEOFF 2 Retirement Board
2100 Evergreen Parkway SW, Suite 180
PO Box 40918
Olympia, WA 98504-0918

July 25, 2010

Dear Chairman Fox,

The members of the Washington State Patrol Troopers Association understand the importance of protecting and participating in the management of the most valuable benefit they receive as public employees, their pension system. We also understand that public safety employees have unique issues that separate us from other public employees.

Traditionally needed benefit adjustments or changes that apply to the State Patrol Retirement System have also affected LEOFF 2 members and vice versa and until Legislation Session 2010 required separate review by your Board and the Select Committee on Pension Policy. During the 2010 session we demonstrated how the public safety community can work very effectively to gain much needed survivor benefit enhancements. It also clearly demonstrated how difficult it is for a small system like the WSPRS to get analytical and policy support and attention from the SCPP.

As you know we have been working for years to gain some sort of governance of our system. We have studied, the legislature has directed studies, and bills have been introduced all falling short for a variety of reasons. The one model that we keep coming back to is some form of governance within the LEOFF 2 Board authority. We are encouraged by recent discussions you and your staff have had with our staff expressing a willingness to explore such a relationship. In view of that I would like to formally request that the LEOFF 2 Retirement Board consider a review of how governance of the WSPRS might be included within your authority.

Your interest in this very important issue will be greatly appreciated, and we look for to continuing our excellent working relationship on all issues of mutual interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tommie", is written over a blue diagonal line.

Tommie Pillow, President