

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

FEBRUARY 26, 2025 • 9:30AM



LOCATION - Hybrid Meeting

In-Person:
Washington State Investment Board
2100 Evergreen Park Drive SW, Suite 100
Olympia, WA 98502

Or Virtual Meeting Information at
www.leoff.wa.gov

TRUSTEES

DENNIS LAWSON, CHAIR
Central Pierce Fire and Rescue (Retired)

JASON GRANNEMAN, VICE CHAIR
Clark County Sheriff's Office

MARK JOHNSTON
Vancouver Fire Department (Retired)

AJ JOHNSON
Snohomish County Fire

SENATOR JEFF HOLY
WA State Senator

TARINA ROSE-WATSON
Spokane Int'l Airport Police Dept

PAT MCELLIGOTT
East Pierce County Fire and Rescue

JAY BURNEY
City of Olympia

WOLF OPITZ
Pierce County

REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BERGQUIST
WA State Representative

DARELL STIDHAM
Spokane County Sheriff's Office (Retired)

STAFF

Steve Nelsen, Executive Director
Tim Valencia, Deputy Director
Chloe Drawsby, Executive Assistant
Jessie Jackson, Administrative Services Manager
Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager
Karen Durant, Senior Research and Policy Manager
Tammy Sadler, Lead Benefits Ombudsman
Jessica Burkhart, Benefits Ombudsman
Tor Jernudd, Assistant Attorney General

**THEY KEEP US SAFE,
WE KEEP THEM SECURE.**

1. **Legislative Update** **9:30 AM**

Jacob White, Sr. Research & Policy Manager

- Board Endorsed Bills
- Board Supported Bills
- Bills of Interest

2. **Administrative Update** **9:45 AM**

Steve Nelsen, Executive Director

3. **Public Comment** **9:50 AM**

**Public comment can be provided to the Board in writing 24 hours prior to the meeting via our reception mailbox: recep@leoff.wa.gov.*



Board Meeting

February 26, 2025

Board Endorsed Bills

HB 1349 | SB 5306

- Concerning the purchase of pension service credit for authorized leaves of absence.

Board Supported Bills

HB 1312 | SB 5114

- **Paying state retirement benefits until the end of the month in which the retiree or beneficiary dies.**

Bills of Interest

HB 1270

- **DCP auto enroll for local employers**

SB 5085

- **Concerning three of Washington state's closed retirement plans.**

HB 1571

- **Removing qualifiers related to the presumption of occupational disease for heart problems.**

HB 1198 | SB 5167

- **2025-2027 Operating Budget**

Administrative Update

Agency Updates

- **Response on 6% Budget Reductions**
- **Newsletter will be distributed in May after legislative session**

Stakeholder Outreach

- **Seattle Fire Local 27 – Financial Wellness Seminar (April 17, 2025 @ Local 27 Union Hall)**
- **WSCFF – Educational Seminar – (April 22-24, 2025, in Kennewick, WA)**

Public Comment

- **Surviving Spouse Medical Insurance**

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 26 at 9:30 AM

From: R MZ <reneeekm@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 6:02 AM

To: Granneman, Jason (LEOFF Trustee) <jason.granneman@leoff.wa.gov>; Rose-Watson, Tarina (LEOFF Trustee) <tarina.watson@leoff.wa.gov>; Stidham, Darell (LEOFF Trustee) <darell.stidham@leoff.wa.gov>; Johnston, Mark (LEOFF Trustee) <mark.johnston@leoff.wa.gov>; Lawson, Dennis (LEOFF Trustee) <dennis.lawson@leoff.wa.gov>; Johnson, AJ (LEOFF Trustee) <aj.johnson@leoff.wa.gov>; Burney, Jay (LEOFF Trustee) <jay.burney@leoff.wa.gov>; Opitz, Wolf (LEOFF Trustee) <wolf.opitz@leoff.wa.gov>; McElligott, Pat (LEOFF Trustee) <pat.mcelligott@leoff.wa.gov>; Holy, Jeff <jeff.holy@leg.wa.gov>; Bergquist, Steve <steve.bergquist@leg.wa.gov>

Cc: Nelsen, Steve (LEOFF) <steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov>

Subject: Question about Surviving Spouse Medical Insurance

External Email

LEOFF 2 Board Members,

My name is Renee Maher-Zieger and I am the surviving spouse of Federal Way Officer Patrick Maher (EOW 8/2/03). I am writing with the hopes that you can assist me in understanding some recent confusing developments in regard to the surviving spouse medical benefit.

When we worked on the legislation that provided this benefit to LEOFF 2 widows back in 2006, I distinctly remember telling spouses that they would be covered "for life." Recently, however, a surviving spouse shared with me that when she became eligible for Medicare, she was removed from her PEBB plan and forced on to a Medicare medical plan. I was extremely confused and concerned about this. Never in all of the discussions prior to the 2006 Legislative session nor during the actual session was there any discussion or agreement or suggestion that surviving spouses would be forced off of PEBB once they qualified for Medicare.

Additionally, she also now has Medicare premiums being deducted from her social security benefit. I know when we worked on the catastrophic disability medical legislation a few years later in 2010, there was specific discussion about Medicare being reimbursed to our catastrophically disabled members. So it now seems like some LEOFF members are having Medicare reimbursed while others are not.

I hope you can help me understand this issue. It is now causing a fair amount of concern with other surviving spouses and instead of misinformation getting passed around, I thought it best to go straight to the experts on the matter. And that's you!

Gratefully yours,

Renee Maher-Zieger