

From: jasonyantzer@gmail.com <jasonyantzer@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 5:29 PM

To: DRS Contact Center <drs.medcontact@drs.wa.gov>

Subject: OTHER

Member ID: 878757

Name: Jason A. Yantzer

Email: jasonyantzer@gmail.com

System/Plans: LEOFF 2 PERS 2

I am a dual member of both LEOFF 2 and PERS 2. When I was employed and qualified for the PERS 2 retirement, my employer only paid into the retirement for 9 months of the 3 years that I was employed. I requested an investigation to look into recovering these benefits. You performed the investigation and denied my request. The investigation found that I qualified for the benefit, however, it was optional for the employer to pay into the retirement plan. Currently, my legislator and the LEOFF 2 board are attempting to craft legislation to fix this issue. They are requesting the denial letter and reason for the denial. Can you please locate the letter and send it to me? They are currently in legislation session and need it asap to move forward.

From: Jason Yantzer <jasonyantzer@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 6:18 PM

To: Nelsen, Steve (LEOFF) <steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov>; Dan Bronoske <Dan.Bronoske@westpierce.org>

Subject: Fwd: OTHER

External Email

Steve,

Here is my denial letter from DRS. I hope this helps!

Jason Yantzer



On Wed, Feb 12, 2025 at 4:20 PM Nelsen, Steve (LEOFF) <steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov> wrote:

Jason,

Thank you for sending your denial letter. I am clear on what the issue is. It will take a statutory change.

When an employer opts to join PERS they have a choice whether to join prospectively or to include past service credit. Your employer chose the prospective option in 1996. That is not uncommon for employers because of the cost of retroactive service credit. So, the DRS denial of your request for this service was correct.

One possibility for statutory change would be to provide a new option in statute that in the event the employer chooses to provide service credit prospectively only, the member has the option to purchase past service with that employer by paying both the member and employer contributions. There would still be some cost and legal issues but it might work. There are other types of service where this member option approach is used.

I hope this is helpful.

Steve