



House Bill 411 would provide relief to nearly 60,000 retired public servants who dedicated their careers to Pennsylvania's students and citizens. For more than 20 years, pre-Act 9 retirees have been struggling to make ends meet, while the cost of goods and services has increased, and inflation eats away at their promise of a secure retirement.

Inaction from lawmakers has forced thousands of seniors – people who did everything right, who served their community, who always paid their share of retirement benefits – into poverty.

House Bill 411 will finally provide pre-Act 9 retirees with the COLA they've been waiting for.

Key facts about how important a COLA is for pre-Act 9 retirees ...

- From 1968 to 2002, the General Assembly passed COLA legislation every 4 or 5 years.
- The General Assembly hasn't approved COLA legislation since 2002.
- The House of Representatives approved House Bill 411 on April 9, 2025.

Since 2002 ...

- The cost of food has increased 88 percent,
- The cost of housing has gone up 85 percent, and
- The cost of medical care has gone up 111 percent.
- Since 2002, pension benefits for pre-Act 9 retirees have increased by ZERO percent.
- The average pension benefit for dedicated state and school employees who retired before 2001 is less than \$20,000, and their average age is 83.

Approving a COLA for pre-Act 9 retirees must be a top priority.

Please support House Bill 411.



March 2025 IFO analysis of HB 411 (Rep. Steven Malagari)

http://www.ifo.state.pa.us/download.cfm?file=Resources/Documents/Actuarial/ANOTE_HB411_PN383.pdf

According to the Independent Fiscal Office, the legislation is projected to increase General Fund expenditures by \$314 million over the next five years. A recent Senate proposal seeks to eliminate this projected impact on the General Fund by paying for the COLA using interest payments earned on the state's Rainy Day Fund.

Impact on SERS:

- Individuals impacted: 21,596
- Average age of eligible retiree: 80.6
- Average increase in annuity for first year: \$2,325 (\$195 monthly)
- Total projected benefit increases paid over lifetime: \$464.1 million
- Initial change in unfunded actuarial liability (UAL): \$319.0 million
- Initial change in funded ratio: -0.4% (70.9% to 70.5%)
- Initial change in employer contribution rate: 0.6% (32.2% to 32.8%)
- Annual amortized cost (10 years): \$45.2 million

Impact on PSERS:

- Individuals impacted: 37,294
- Average age of eligible retiree: 83.9
- Average increase in annuity for first year: \$3,015 (\$250 monthly)
- Total projected benefit increases paid over lifetime: \$957.0 million
- Initial change in unfunded actuarial liability (UAL): \$659.7 million
- Initial change in funded ratio: -0.3% (66.3% to 66.0%)
- Initial change in employer contribution rate: 0.6% (34.7% to 35.3%)
- Annual amortized cost (10 years): \$100.5 million

House Bill 411 would impact PSERS and SERS annuitants who retired before July 2, 2001.

If enacted, the amount of the COLA would be based on the annuitant's most recent effective date of retirement and would be paid in accordance with the schedule below.

Most Recent Effective Date of Retirement	Percentage Increase
July 2, 2000, through July 1, 2001	15.0%
July 2, 1999, through July 1, 2000	15.5%
July 2, 1998, through July 1, 1999	16.0%
July 2, 1997, through July 1, 1998	16.5%
July 2, 1996, through July 1, 1997	17.0%
July 2, 1995, through July 1, 1996	17.5%
July 2, 1994, through July 1, 1995	18.0%
July 2, 1993, through July 1, 1994	18.5%
July 2, 1992, through July 1, 1993	19.0%
July 2, 1991, through July 1, 1992	19.5%
July 2, 1990, through July 1, 1991	20.0%
July 2, 1989, through July 1, 1990	20.5%
July 2, 1988, through July 1, 1989	21.0%
July 2, 1987, through July 1, 1988	21.5%
July 2, 1986, through July 1, 1987	22.0%
July 2, 1985, through July 1, 1986	22.5%
July 2, 1984, through July 1, 1985	23.0%
July 2, 1983, through July 1, 1984	23.5%
July 2, 1982, through July 1, 1983	24.0%
Prior to July 2, 1982	24.5%

Pre-Act 9 Retirees need a COLA NOW