



Legislative Recap

March 2, 2018

NH HOUSE TO VOTE ON COLA BILL

As you know the majority of the NH House Finance Committee voted last week to defeat [HB1756-FN: AN ACT relative to an additional allowance and a cost of living adjustment for retirees from the state retirement system](#). This bill would provide a long overdue COLA to the 28,000 current retired public employees.

The full NH House will vote on HB1756-FN next Tuesday - March 6, 2018. Your Representatives need to hear from you NOW.

BILL INFORMATION:

- A one-time COLA of \$500 for retirees who have been retired for 5 years or more and receive less than 30k a year to be paid during the 2020 fiscal year,
- Creates a 1.5% COLA funded through retirement system funds, state general funds, or some other revenue source. It shall become a permanent addition to a retiree's benefit,

TAKE ACTION!

- Reach out to your Representative and encourage them to vote NO on the committee recommendation. Find your Representative [HERE](#)

WHAT TO SAY:

- The last time NH retirees received an automatic COLA was 2010.
- There will not be another COLA granted to retirees until the NH legislature does something about it.
- Retirees keep getting hit with increases to healthcare costs, depleting their already modest retirement benefits.
- The average retirement benefit for NH retirees is \$19,943
- Retirees are an important asset to our state and local economies.
- Every \$1 paid out in pension benefits supported \$1.40 in total economic activity in New Hampshire.
- **HB1756-FN was a step in the right direction, but the Finance Committee is recommending it Inexpedient to Legislate.**
- **Please overturn the Committee recommendation on HB1756-FN to provide a long overdue COLA to the 28,000 currently retired public employees**

Other important retirement bill the NH House will vote on next week:

[HB1757: Relative to the reduction in the calculation of state retirement system annuities at age 65](#)

- Coalition Position = SUPPORT
- Committee Vote = OTPA **15- 4**
- This bill was amended on Wednesday.
 - With this amendment, the 10% reduction will begin at the time of retirement. Everyone will then receive a post-retirement payment that totals 30 months of 10% of their benefit. It also provides payments for those who retire prior to 65.

[**VISIT HERE to get the amendment language and further explanation of the impact of this bill.**](#)

[HB1754: Establishing a state defined contribution retirement plan for state and political subdivision members of the retirement system](#)

- Coalition Position = DEFEAT
- Committee Vote = **ITL 14 - 2**

[HB1603: Relative to employee representation on the independent investment committee in the New Hampshire retirement system](#)

- Committee Vote = SUPPORT
- Committee Vote = **OTPA 19 - 0**, will be on the consent calendar. This means there will not be a debate about it unless a Representative gets enough support to take it off the consent calendar.

To find all of the details regarding this week's votes, please visit the [NH House Calendar](#).

The NH Retirement Security Coalition is made up of the following employee organizations:

- American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Council 93
- American Federation of Teachers – New Hampshire
- National Educators Association - New Hampshire
- New Hampshire American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations
- New Hampshire Police Association
- New England Police Benevolent Association
- New Hampshire Retired Educators Association
- New Hampshire School Administrators Association
- New Hampshire Higher Education Union – a division of IBEW Local 2320
- New Hampshire Troopers Association
- Professional Fire Fighters of New Hampshire
- State Employees Association of New Hampshire - SEIU Local 1984
- Teamsters Local 633

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