



Legislative Recap

March 22, 2019

COLA bill moves to full finance committee

Today, the NH House division I finance committee held a work session on HB616-FN: [relative to a cost of living adjustment for retirees in the state retirement system](#)

- Sponsors: (Prime) Dianne Schuett , Howard Moffett, Phyllis Katsakiores, Mark Pearson, Sallie Fellows, Arthur Ellison
- Coalition Position: **SUPPORT**

Many members on the committee discussed at length their desire to provide some type of COLA to retirees, but are concerned about the fiscal impact. There was not enough support on the committee to pass the bill as written. Therefore, an amendment was brought in that says the COLA shall only be provided on the first \$30,000 of a retiree's or beneficiary's benefit. The bill with amendment passed 4-1.

AMENDMENT

Therefore, if the bill passes, EVERYONE who has been retired for at least 60 months prior to July 1, 2019 will receive a COLA on the first \$30,000 of their benefit. That means if your benefit is less than \$30,000 you will receive a full 1.5% COLA on your benefit. if your benefit is more than \$30,000, you will only receive a 1.5% COLA on the first \$30k of your benefit. The COLA will become a permanent addition to your yearly benefit.

Its not over, yet. The bill still needs to pass the full House finance committee, the full House again, and then move over to the Senate.

The bill will be heard by the full finance committee next Wednesday - see below for further details.

Next Week's Legislative Schedule

House Finance Committee Executive Session - Wednesday March 27, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

HB116-FN: [relative to the job classification of positions in the retirement system.](#)

- Sponsors: (Prime) Carol McGuire , Peter Schmidt, Dianne Schuett, Steven Beaudoin
- Coalition Position: MONITOR
- **House Finance Division I Recommendation: OTP 4-0**

HB616-FN: [relative to a cost of living adjustment for retirees in the state retirement system](#)

- Sponsors: (Prime) Dianne Schuett , Howard Moffett, Phyllis Katsakiores, Mark Pearson, Sallie Fellows, Arthur Ellison
- Coalition Position: **SUPPORT**
- **House Finance Division I Recommendation: OTPA 4-1**

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Reach out to the FULL House Finance committee and ask them to support HB616-FN!

[Committee Contact Page](#)

[Full Committee Email List \(cut and paste\)](#)

[Talking Points and Bill Information](#)

[Draft Email](#)

[A full list of the bills the Coalition is following can be found on our website.](#)

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 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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