

# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

## 2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

### Senate Bill 61

FISCAL  
NOTE

By Senator Woelfel

[Introduced February 12, 2025; referred  
to the Committee on Pensions; and then to the  
Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding two new sections,  
 2 designated §5-10-22o and §18-7A-26z, relating to providing a \$1,000 cost-of-living  
 3 adjustment to certain retirees of the Public Employees Retirement System and the State  
 4 Teachers Retirement System; and providing for the pro rata distribution of the cost-of-living  
 5 adjustment to certain beneficiaries.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**CHAPTER 5. GENERAL POWERS AND AUTHORITY OF THE  
 GOVERNOR, SECRETARY OF STATE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL;  
 BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS; MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES,  
 COMMISSIONS, OFFICES, PROGRAMS, ETC.**

**ARTICLE 10. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ACT.**

**§5-10-22o. Cost-of-living adjustments for certain annuitants effective on or before June 30,  
 2025.**

1 (a) As an additional cost-of-living adjustment to other retirement allowances provided, a  
 2 cost-of-living adjustment to retirement benefits shall be paid to retirees of the system as provided  
 3 in subsection (b) of this section. The cost-of-living adjustment shall equal \$1,000 and the first  
 4 payment shall be paid in full by June 30, 2025.

5 (b) The cost-of-living adjustment provided by this section applies to any retiree who  
 6 currently receives an annual retirement annuity. This cost-of-living adjustment is subject to any  
 7 applicable limitations under section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

8 (c) The cost-of-living adjustment provided by this section is payable pro rata to any  
 9 beneficiary of a qualifying retiree who currently receives an annuity or other benefit payable by the  
 10 system.

**CHAPTER 18. EDUCATION.**

**ARTICLE 7A. STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM.**

**§18-7A-26z. Cost-of-living adjustments for certain annuitants effective on or before June 30, 2025.**

1        (a) As an additional cost-of-living adjustment to other retirement allowances provided, a  
2 cost-of-living adjustment to retirement benefits shall be paid to certain retirees of the retirement  
3 system as provided in subsection (b) of this section. The cost-of-living adjustment shall equal  
4 \$1,000 and shall be paid in full by June 30, 2025.

5        (b) The cost-of-living adjustment provided in this section applies to any retiree who  
6 currently receives an annual retirement annuity. This cost-of-living adjustment is subject to any  
7 applicable limitations under Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

8        (c) The cost-of-living adjustment provided by this section is payable pro rata to any  
9 beneficiary of a qualifying retiree who currently receives an annuity or other benefit payable by the  
10 retirement system.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide a \$1,000 cost-of-living adjustment to certain retirees of the Public Employees Retirement System and the State Teachers Retirement System.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.