

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 127

**FISCAL
NOTE**

By Senator Woelfel

[Introduced January 14, 2026; 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 thereto two new
2 sections, designated §5-10-22o and §18-7A-26z, relating to providing a \$1,000 cost-of-
3 living adjustment to certain retirees of the Public Employees Retirement System and the
4 State Teachers Retirement System; and providing for the pro rata distribution of the cost-
5 of-living 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, 2026.

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, **2026.**

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, 2026.

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.