



Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator Anthony H. Williams

*8th Senatorial District
366 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120
(717) 787-5970; FAX: (717) 772-0574*

DATE: November 23, 2011
TO: All Senators
FROM: Senator Anthony H. Williams
SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of Legislation: **Cost of Living Adjustments**

In the near future, I will be introducing legislation to address the cost of living adjustments (“COLAs”) for retired educators. Through legislative approval of the General Assembly, annuitant members of the Public School Employees’ Retirement System (“PSERS”) have been granted COLAs on a periodic basis. Since 1967, the Legislature has granted permanent supplemental increases ten times. Generally, this has occurred on a cycle of every four to five years; however, a COLA has not been approved since 2002.

As currently written, my bill would amend the Public School Code to provide a pre-funding mechanism for COLAs for retired public school employees only. This will assist the Legislature when determining how the available money should gradually be diverted into the fund. When the fund reaches a sufficient level, the Legislature should direct PSERS to disburse the funds for the purpose of providing COLAs.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Shannon A. Sargent, Esq., at 787-5970 or email ssargent@pasenate.com.