

James Minott  
Scarborough  
LD 70

271 Beech Ridge Road  
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for LD 70 which would allow the COLA to be applied to State retirees and educators on their entire retirement benefit instead of only to the first \$24,186.15.

Over the past 20 years, the year-to-year increase in the gross distribution of my state pension has not come close to matching the rate of inflation. In 2002 my pension was \$56,419 and in 2022 my pension's gross distribution was \$59,349. This is an increase in twenty years of \$2,929, meaning that it has increased only 5.19% over this time period.

According to several reputable sources I found online, the inflation rate during this same twenty year period has been roughly 65%. This is a vast, and almost unbelievable, difference from what I have received for COLA increases; 65% versus 5.19%.

While the cost for everyday needs has been steady and dramatically increasing, I am falling financially further and further behind each year.

I urge you to support LD 70 for all of Maine's Public Service Retirees.

Sincerely,  
James E. Minott