

John Nichols  
Winthrop  
LD 70

The current calculation using only a base indexed figure is a slap in the face to two categories of employees by reducing COLA to something less than or as little as 1% when the federal COLA is as high as 8%

- Salaried workers who accepted greater responsibilities and possessed higher levels of skill and knowledge and stay for longer careers.
  - Essential workers, such as highway maintenance workers (plow drivers, for example) who work frequent, lengthy overtime hours and also stay for longer than average careers.
- Workers who stayed on the job for as few as 10 years and who put in just enough time and effort on the job receive the reward of the full 3%.

I also suggest the committee consider restoring the previous 4% figure, as I understand the Retirement System may have restored much of the previously declared "unfunded liability."