



**Retired Public Employees Council  
Chapter 40 – Pacific County  
Edith Shire, President: (360) 642-2831**

**RPEC District 5 Meeting**

**Virtual Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022**  
**Virtual Meeting Time: 1:00 PM**

**Computer Login Information**

Go to <https://zoom.us/join>  
**Meeting ID: 812 6886 3259**  
**Passcode: 204831**

**Phone Login Information**

**Dial: (253) 215-8782**  
**Meeting ID: 812 6886 3259**  
**Phone Passcode: 204831**

Greetings Chapter 40 Members,

Please join us on **February 15<sup>th</sup>** at **1:00 PM** for a virtual meeting with other RPEC Members from Southwest Washington. We will learn about the work that RPEC is doing in the legislature and what we can do to help. Please see the meeting agenda below:

**February 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting Agenda**

1. Legislative Update
2. Chapter Elections Guidelines
3. Chapter Newsletter Cost Sharing Update
4. Chapter Newsletter Preparation Deadlines
5. Chapter Health Update
6. District 5 Picnic
7. Quarterly Meetings for District 5 Chapter Officers
8. What can RPEC Do for You?

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**State Legislative Update:** The Governor's supplemental budget was released prior to the Holidays and included funding for the one-time 3% Plan 1 COLA proposal that the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) endorsed in November. RPEC is sending a letter of thanks to the Governor and the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for its inclusion.

The Select Committee's COLA proposal has been introduced in the House as **HB 1721** and in the Senate as **SB 5676**. Both bills provide a one-time 3% COLA for PERS 1 and TRS 1 retirees with a cap of \$110 per month. The House bill is sponsored by Representative Drew Stokesbary (R, Auburn) and is co-sponsored by 20 House Democrats and two House Republicans. The Senate bill is sponsored by Senator Steve Conway (D, Tacoma) and co-sponsored by 15 Senate Democrats and 7 Senate Republicans.

As we support HB 1721 and SB 5676, it is important to mention the need for a permanent solution to the loss of purchasing power that Plan 1 retirees experience. During the interim we will continue to meet with legislators to work toward our goal of securing a recurring COLA for Plan 1 retirees.

HB 1721 and SB 5676 received hearings in their house of origin budget committees on January 17<sup>th</sup> and were voted out of committee on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Next, the bills need to be "pulled" from the House and Senate rules committees and brought to the floor for a vote. The bills may have made further progress since this newsletter's publication on February 1, 2022.

**2022 RPEC/WEA-Retired Joint Legislative Week:** Thank you to those who attended our virtual Legislative Week. Over 150 retired public employees and teachers met with their legislators and communicated their support of HB 1721 and SB 5676.

**Legislative Update Meetings:** Please join us at 2:00 on Friday afternoons to get an update on the progress of HB 1721 and SB 5676. These update meetings will continue throughout the legislative session. If you are interested in hearing about the week's legislative news and happenings, please join us.

### **Join by Computer:**

Go to: <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 890 4536 5250

Passcode: 320296

### **Join by Phone:**

Dial: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 890 4536 5250

Passcode: 320296

In solidarity,



Derek VanSpor, Interim Executive Director  
Retired Public Employees Council of Washington

### **Important Dates:**

February 18, 2022 – Finance Committee meeting

February 28, 2022 – RPEC Executive Board meeting

March 10, 2022 – End of 2022 Legislative Session, Sine Die

\*Council meetings will take place virtually until such time as it is safe to meet in person\*