Legislative News Jim Davison, Legislative Committee

I met with 8 of 9 legislators representing E8, (9th & 16 Legislative Districts) on March 27 & 28.

As of 4/7/19 the house budget includes a one-time 3% Plan I COLA. That makes it

Necessary to Implement the Budget (NTIB). It was introduced as an amendment in the Senate and Sen. Walsh spoke for it during floor debate, but it was voted down. (Be sure to thank her!) We may not know for sure until final negotations are done and the final gavel falls. Continue making calls and sending emails to members of the Senate Budget Committee.

Medicare Benefit was included in the House Budget at 2011 lever of \$183, but should be over \$200 due to rate increases.

HB 1414 & SB 5335 to pay surviving spouse the fullmonthly benefit for the month of a death are also eligible for NTIB.

HB 1308 & SB 5360 (Making Plan 2 the default) both passed their house of origin, now in the other chamber. (Thank you all three 16th District legislators.)

HB 1139 (TRS/SERS Plans 2 & 3 Retire-Rehire improvements) has passed the house and is currently in the Senate. April 9 was the cutoff for all fiscal bills. (Jenkin and Rude supported, encourage Walsh.) April 17 is the opposite house cutoff for all bills, and the scheduled final day is April 28.

Thanks to all who participated in local Legislative Town Hall meetings to share your concerns, allowing legislators to associate individuals with concerns. You can still contact them with your thanks, or concerns. The best email format is *Firstname,Lastname@leg.wa.gov or TOLL-FREE HOTLINE: 1-800-562-6000*.

Maureen.Walsh@leg.wa.gov Bill.Jenkins@leg.wa.gov Skyler.Rude@leg.wa.gov

Walla Walla-Columbia County School Retirees Association has a new website with lots of informative articles and information. Log on to:



https://wssra.org/wallawalla-columbia/

In the interests of confidentiality and privacy of our board members, we will no longer be publishing personal emails or phone numbers. If you need to contact any of our board members with a change of email, address, phone number, or questions regarding any of our services or programs, please use the email address below. It will be monitored and someone will get back to you quickly.

wwcsra@gmail.com



Judy needs a couple of additional callers for luncheons. If you can spare 1/2 hour each month and have a phone, we need you! Call Judy to offer your time.

We also need accurate addresses and phone numbers to be able to contact you and get your newsletters to you. Please contact Kathi with changes if you move or get new phone service.

Steve Heimbigner has the **2018–2019 Membership Directories** and has them available to pick up at any luncheon meeting or board meeting. As in the last couple of years, directories will be given only upon request.

Please remember that these directories are only for your use. Information about other members is not to be shared with anyone outside of our group without the permission of the members.