



## Legislative Update #19-20 June 28, 2019

### House and Senate Pass Budget [H 966 -2019 Appropriations Act](#)

It's not enough, we know, but it's a start. After a tough battle with the State Senate, legislative budget writers gave state retirees a .5 percent one-time bonus this year.

You were a big part of making this happen! When we learned that budget writers planned to give retirees NOTHING, we called on you to make your voice heard at the General Assembly. You did and we were repeatedly told by members of the General Assembly and their staffs their phones were ringing with retirees sharing why they need a cost of living adjustment.

Thank you for that.

We're far from done. Our goal is to get you more: And we will not abandon that goal as we continue fighting for all government retirees. This year may be a disappointment but our legislative efforts will continue to increase at the General Assembly as we move into the interim and toward 2020. During the interim we will work with legislators in their home districts sharing our goals and building relationships for better outcomes in 2020.

### **Governor's Veto**

After passage in the House and Senate last week, the 2019 budget went to the desk of Governor Roy Cooper. On Friday morning the Governor vetoed the budget bill.

What does the Governor's veto mean? The budget will now be returned to the legislature. But because of partisan shifts within the two legislative chambers, it's an unknown right now whether the Republican leadership will have enough crossover votes from Democrats to override the Governor's veto. This marks a change from past sessions when Republican-led supermajorities held enough votes to override any vetoes coming from the executive branch. If the veto does stick and cannot be overridden, we could have leverage to negotiate further changes.

### **A huge thank you to you!**

Thank you for your calls which have been critical in raising awareness and having the Senate take some action, although limited, on the COLA issue!  
Stay Tuned!!