

**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS EDWARD M. FLYNN, JULIA M. MEJIA, BREADON, CULPEPPER, FITZGERALD, LOUIJEUNE, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL**



**CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF 3%  
COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) AND  
INCREASING THE COLA BASE FOR RETIREES IN  
THE BOSTON RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS,** Retirees in the Boston Retirement System dedicated their careers to serving the residents of Boston and improving the quality of life in our city; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Our retirees deserve a retirement package that provides a fair and dignified standard of living after years of public service. Retirees have not received an increase to their Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) base since 2021 and currently receive an annual COLA increase of only \$450, which has failed to keep pace with rising living expenses; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston has a high cost of living, which is 48% greater than the national average. Grocery prices are approximately 29% higher than in the rest of the country, with housing expenses 127% greater, and utility prices 24%, respectively; *and*

**WHEREAS,** It is therefore critical to raise the COLA base for our retirees, so that they can continue to afford to live in the city that they served and helped build. City retirees deserve an increase in their COLA base in recognition of their years of service to the city and the significant rise in the cost of living across the city and state; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council supports an annual 3% Cost-of-Living Adjustment and an increase in the COLA base from \$15,000 to \$18,000 for retirees in the Boston Retirement System.

Filed on: May 20, 2026