

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BENJAMIN J. WEBER, HENRY SANTANA, ED FLYNN,  
BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD,  
MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, AND LOUIJEUNE



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A COLA BASE INCREASE FOR CITY OF BOSTON RETIREES

- WHEREAS,** City of Boston retirees dedicated many years of service as municipal employees and contributed their hard-earned money to the retirement system in hopes that they could live comfortably after their service to our City; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Massachusetts Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010 allows each retirement board to increase its members' Cost-of-Living-Adjustment "COLA" base as it sees fit; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The cost of living has increased across the state. In Boston, the cost of living increased in 2024 by 2.5 percent above the prior year, with the largest increases found in transportation, food, and housing; *and*
- WHEREAS,** We owe it to our retirees to guarantee that the COLA base adequately meets their needs; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On Tuesday, September 17, 2024, the Boston Retirement Board did not vote in favor of the COLA base increase that retirees and many members of this body have been advocating for; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The last COLA base increase was in 2021. For over two years now retirees have been asking for the COLA base to increase from \$15,000 to \$18,000 and have gotten support for that from members of this body and previous Boston City Councilors; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Only three COLA base increases have been granted since the Acts of 2010, which equates to a total of \$90 per retiree per year; *and*
- WHEREAS,** These retirees are on fixed incomes and have helped keep our City running for generations. We must continue to advocate for them to receive the three percent annual COLA increase in addition to a base increase of \$18,000 they have been asking for; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Retirement Board, by statute, is required to act in the fiduciary interest of its members. It is autonomous and must act in the interest of its members; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

***RESOLVED:*** That the Boston City Council stands with all municipal retirees in the Boston retirement system and urges the City to take action by granting a raise in the COLA base to a minimum of \$18,000 to enable retirees who served our City to stay in Boston and age with dignity.

Filed on: September 25, 2024