

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SSB 5790

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**As Reported by House Committee On:**  
Appropriations

**Title:** An act relating to cost-of-living adjustments for community and technical college employees.

**Brief Description:** Concerning cost-of-living adjustments for community and technical college employees.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senator Robinson).

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Appropriations: 4/22/25, 4/23/25 [DP].

**Brief Summary of Substitute Bill**

- Changes the index used for the annual cost-of-living adjustment for certain employees at community and technical colleges from the Seattle-area Consumer Price Index to the implicit price deflator.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 19 members: Representatives Ormsby, Chair; Gregerson, Vice Chair; Macri, Vice Chair; Berg, Bergquist, Callan, Cortes, Doglio, Fitzgibbon, Leavitt, Lekanoff, Peterson, Pollet, Ryu, Springer, Stonier, Street, Thai and Tharinger.

**Staff:** David Pringle (786-7310).

**Background:**

Initiative 732 was approved by voters in the November 2000 general election and required

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the state to provide an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for teachers and other public school employees, as well as community and technical college academic employees and classified employees at technical colleges based on the Seattle-area Consumer Price Index (CPI) from the most recently completed calendar year. Following enactment of Engrossed House Bill 2242 in 2017, the COLA for kindergarten through grade 12 school employees was changed to be based on the implicit price deflator (IPD). Community and technical college academic employees and classified employees at technical colleges still receive an annual COLA based on the Seattle-area CPI.

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**Summary of Bill:**

The index used to calculate the annual COLA for community and technical college academic employees and classified employees at technical colleges is changed from the Seattle-area CPI to the IPD.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) None.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** None.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.