

# JULY 2024

#### FY'25 Benefit Recipient COLA Status Update

We are pleased to inform you that if you retired before July 1, 2023 and are otherwise eligible, the State Retirement Board has implemented the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for the July payroll. Governor Healey has until July 29 to sign into law. Effective July 1, 2024, the COLA is 3% of the first \$13,000 of your annual benefit paid in monthly installments.

COLA updates will be posted on our website when they become available. You can track the budget process on the Legislature's website.

# **Staying Cool On Hot Days**

With record-hot temperatures throughout the country, knowing how to keep cool is essential. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that around 1,220 people die every year in the United States from severe heat. <u>This article</u> from the CDC looks at some tips on keeping yourself cool during these periods of high humidity and extreme heat.

Be sure to drink plenty of water, stay in air-conditioned buildings when possible, limit your stove and oven use, and check

## The *MSRB Retiree eNews Bulletin* Celebrates Its Tenth Anniversary!

July marks the tenth anniversary of the launch of the **MSRB Retiree eNews Bulletin**. Over the past ten years, staff has worked diligently to provide important and relevant information to our retired members.

Our July 2014 inaugural issue was emailed to 22,645 retirees, survivors, and beneficiaries. Since then, we are pleased to report that the number of current subscribers has grown to 54,573 (77%) of our benefit recipients!

# Did You Know? PayInfo

You can opt out of mailed paper pension payment statements! Your full statements are accessible <u>online via</u> <u>PayInfo</u>. For details, see the article below titled "Go Green!"

# Go Green! 🕖

There is no better time than the summer to practice going green. Reduce paper usage by opting out of your mailed paper pension statements, which are easily in on your friends and neighbors.

### Fourth of July

Did you know that this past Fourth of July marked the 248th anniversary of the Second Continental Congress ratifying the Declaration of Independence? <u>Click here</u> to learn more.

Board staff hopes everyone had a relaxing and safe Fourth of July!

Is there something you would like us to communicate in an upcoming *Retiree eNews Bulletin*? If so, let us know!

Email your request or comments to <u>MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us</u>.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Did you receive this **Retiree eNews Bulletin** as a forwarded email from a friend? If you are an MSERS retiree and would like to receive your own monthly **Retiree eNews Bulletin**, send your email address to us at MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us.

Note: Please include your full name and either your MSRB I.D. or the last four digits of your Social Security Number, and request that we add it to our distribution list.

Past issues of our newsletter publications can be found on our <u>website</u>.

Quick links: Visit our website: mass.gov/retirement

Like us on Facebook: <u>facebook.com/mass.state.retirement</u>

Follow us on X @MassStateRet: <u>x.com/massstateret</u>

accessible online at PayInfo! PayInfo makes it fast and easy to view your statements and access them whenever you want! The production of paper has a huge impact on our environment, so it's important that we find ways to minimize it as much as we can.

#### Access your PayInfo statements here.

Once logged in, click the "Go Paperless Now!" button to opt out of mail-in statements and join us in going green!

If you need assistance, <u>click here for</u> <u>instructions.</u>

Have you, or are you, planning to move? If so, be sure to notify the Board of your address change! Retirees who already have summer and winter addresses on file with the Board can call us to request the address update. Otherwise, you'll need to notify the Board in writing. You can download our Change of Address form <u>here!</u>

### **Contact us:**

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Tel: 617-367-7770

Note: MSRB phones are answered Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., except on state holidays.