

Will Hansen, Executive Director Plan Sponsor Council of America



#### **2022 LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK**





# **Sec 101** – Require Automatic Enrollment for New Plans

Only \$500 employer tax credit in Senate

# **Sec 102** – Enhanced Tax Credits for New Smaller Plans

- For new plans up to 50 employees, startup credit increased to 100 %
- 100% tax credit for employer contributions up to \$1k per NHCE for 2 years then phased out by 25% over the next 3 years
- Senate only increases existing credit to 75% for employers with up to 25 employees



**Sec 104** – Modify Existing Law SAVERs

Credit

 Eliminates eligibility cliffs and increases income eligibility beginning phase out at \$48k for joint filers

**Sec 105** – 403(b)s Allowed to Invest in CITs

**Sec 106** – New Required Beginning Dates for RMDs

- Age 73 beginning in 2027
- Age 75 beginning in 2033
- Senate—age 75 beginning in 2031

**Sec 108** – Catch-Up Contribution Limit Increased to \$10k

- \$5K for SIMPLEs
- Eligible individuals = Ages 62-64
- Senate—same but for ages 60-63



**Sec 110** – 403(b) PEPs

**Sec 111** – Student Loan Matching Program

- ADP testing disaggregation provision
- Senate bill treats student loan payments as elective deferrals for testing purposes

**Sec 114** – Small Financial Incentives for Contributions Allowed

**Sec 116** – New Long-term Part-time (LTPT) Worker Definition

- 500 hours for TWO consecutive years
- Prior service for vesting does not apply
- Effective as if included in SECURE Act (new eligibility rules begin in 2023)



**Sec 305** – Eliminate Notice Requirements for Non-Participants

Sec 306 – Retirement Savings Lost and Found Program

- Requires DOL to create database
- Senate requires Treasury to hold forced cash-outs under \$1K

**Sec 307** – Increase Cash-Out Amount from \$5k to \$7k

**Sec 308** – Expansion of EPCRS

 Allows IRA RMD errors to be selfcorrected within 180 days



# **Sec 314** – Paper Statement Mandate

- Requires at least one quarterly benefit statement to be delivered on paper
- Not in Senate bill—possible compromise re: IRS electronic delivery

**Sec 315** – Top-Heavy Rules Do Not Apply to Otherwise Excludable Employees

- Less than 1000 hours or under age 21
- Makes it easier to allow for immediate eligibility to make deferrals



# **Sec 319** – Family Attribution Rule Sec 320 – Discretionary Fixes Amendments That Incre

- Stock attribution rules do not apply for spouses with separate businesses in community property states
- Stock attribution rules do not apply for spouses with separate businesses on account of a minor child

Sec 320 – Discretionary
Amendments That Increase
Benefits Allowed for Previous
Year Up Until Employer Tax
Return Due Date



# **Sec 601** – SIMPLE and SEP Roth IRAs

•SIMPLE and SEPs are permitted to be designated at Roth IRAs

Sec 602 – Hardship Rules for 403(b) Plans

- Conforms the existing hardship distribution rules for 401(k)s to 403(b)s
- QNECs, QMACs, plus earnings in 403(b)s can now be distributed



#### **Sec 603** – Catch-Up Contributions Required to be Roth

- Does not apply to SIMPLEs or SEPs
- Senate—not required if employee made less than 100k in prior year
- Senate—delays effective date to 24 but also prohibits recharacterization of excess contributions to "catch-ups" if employee makes more than 100k

# Sec 604 – Optional Roth Treatment of ER Matching Contributions

 Employer may permit an employee to designate matching contributions as
 Roth



#### Starter 401(k) Plans

- Deferral-only 401(k) safe harbor plan so no testing
- Contributions limits same as with IRAs (currently \$6k—indexed) plus catch-up (currently \$1k—indexed under the bill)
- Auto-enrollment required at 3%

#### New Stretch Match 401(k) Plan Safe Harbor

- Match: 100% for the first 2%; 50% for the next 4%; 20% for the next 4%
- Auto-enroll required at 6% with autoescalation of 1% up to 10%
- Adopting employers with less than 100 employees would get tax credit for 5 years for NHCE matching contributions up to 2%



## SAVERS Credit Matching Contribution

- Changes tax credit to government match regardless of tax liability
- Contributed directly into the plan account IRA of the taxpayer

- •50% match on contribution up to \$2k per person
- Match phased out between \$41-\$71k
   for joint filers (half for singles)
- Effective in 2026



#### **Emergency Savings**

 EARN Act allows distributions from DC plans up to \$1k per year without penalty that must be repaid within 3 years before another distribution

- R&S Act allows plans to create "pensionlinked emergency savings accounts"
  - Employees must be opted in at 3% with a cap of \$2500—can be taken out at any time
  - Contributions to PLESA are after-tax but must still get matching contributions as if an elective deferral



# Permanent Rules for Natural Disasters

 Would automatically allow for penaltyfree distributions for affected taxpayers when a natural disaster is declared but only up to \$22k (not 100k)

Clarifies Incidental Plan Expenses
Allowed to be Paid from Plan
Assets

RMDs No Longer Required for Roth Plan Accounts

Enables Plans to Utilize a Rollover Clearinghouse

Allow Cash Balance Plans to Use Variable Interest Crediting Rate Up to 6%



Allow Mid-Year Replacement of SIMPLE IRA Plan with Safe Harbor 401(k) or 401(k) that Provides Profit Sharing Contributions

Allow SEP Contributions for Domestic Employees

#### SIMPLE IRA Changes:

- Contribution limits increased to \$16,500 (indexed) and \$4,750 (indexed) for catch-ups, but if employer has more than 25 employees matching contributions must increase to the same as a safe harbor 401(k) plan (total 4%)
- Allows additional employer contributions up to 10% but no more than \$5K



#### STATE RETIREMENT PLAN OVERVIEW

Since 2012, 46 states have acted to implement, study, or introduce legislation to establish state-facilitated retirement savings programs

14 states and 2 cities have enacted a state-facilitated retirement savings program for private sector workers

Programs are currently open to employers in 6 states

- California = Mandatory Auto-IRA
- Illinois = Mandatory Auto-IRA
- Massachusetts = Voluntary Open MEP
- Oregon = Mandatory Auto-IRA
- Washington = Voluntary Marketplace

Programs Pending with Mandates

New York, New Jersey, Maryland,
 Virginia, Maine, and Colorado



#### **2022 LITIGATION OUTLOOK**

#### BlackRock Index Fund Cases

- Complaints Claim Plan Sponsors
   Failed to Prudently Evaluate
   BlackRock Index Funds as an
   Investment Option
- 11 Plan Sponsors Sued by Same Law Firm
- Are any Plans Safe from Litigation?



#### **Grab Bag of Topics**

- ESG Funds
- Cryptocurrency
- Retirement Income
- Other?





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