



# Keeping Current

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# Legislation

- **Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 passed Congress 12/23/2022**
- **Signed by President 12/29/2022 – Date of Enactment**
- **SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022**
- **Title 1: Expanding Coverage and Increasing Retirement Savings**
- **Title 2: Preservation of Income**
- **Title 3: Simplification and Clarification of Retirement Plan Rules (50 sections!)**
- **Title 4: Technical Amendments (to 2020 SECURE 1.0)**
- **Title 5: Administrative Provisions (Plan amendment deadlines)**
- **Title 6: Revenue Provisions (Lots of Roth stuff)**
- **Title 7: Tax Court Retirement Provisions (We won't cover)**

# 2025 Amendment Deadline

Act Section
501
Qualified
Yes
403(b)
Yes
457(b)
Yes
Eff. Date
N/A

- No operational failure if amended by last day of first plan year beginning on or after 1/1/2025
  - IRS can grant later deadline
  - Governmental and union plan deadlines extended two years
  - Amendment must be retroactively effective
- Anti-cutback relief also available
- Must operate in accordance with law and amendment as ultimately adopted

# More on Amendments

- Presumably, deadline for terminating plans is termination date
- Will not be included in 403(b) restatements now being submitted to the IRS
- 2025/2027 deadline also applies to amendments for
  - SECURE 1.0
  - CARES
  - Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2020





# 2023 Changes

- Retroactive effective date
  - Effective 12/29/2022
  - Effective first plan year beginning in 2023
- 





## SECURE Act 2.0 - Key Priorities 2023

### SECTION 1: Updates and Enhancements

What's happening in 2023...

# Additionally...

“Applicable in 2023” includes those provisions with effective dates stated as “plan years beginning after date of enactment or after December 31, 2022; taxable years beginning after date of enactment or after December 31, 2022; or on or after the date of enactment; and any retroactive effective dates.

# 2023 **Mandatory** Changes



Act §	Provision	Qual	403(b)	457(b)
401	QACA ACP Safe Harbor Notice Required	401(k)	Yes	No
107	Age 73 RMD	Yes	Yes	Yes
311	QBAD recontribution deadline 3 years after distribution	Yes	Yes	Gov't
348	Cash balance interest crediting rate for variable rate must be reasonable rate not greater than 6%	DB	No	No
349	End of variable rate PBGC premium; replaces it with flat \$52/\$1000 unfunded vested benefit	DB	No	No
105	Named fiduciary (not trustee) responsible to collect contributions for PEP	DC	Yes	No



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Increase in age for Required Minimum Distributions

**APPLICABLE IN  
2023  
Bill Section 107**

<b>Act Section</b>
107
<b>Code Section</b>
401(a)(9)
<b>Qualified</b>
Yes
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
Yes
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Years after 2022
<b>Mandatory</b>

Required Beginning Date (RBD) was April 1 of calendar year after participant turned 70 ½ (or retired)

- It's going up, up, up!

Year	Age	Date of Birth	RBD
2020	72	Before July 1, 1949	Based on 70 1/2
2023	73	7/1/1949-12/31/1950	Based on 72
2033	75	1/1/1951-12/31/1959	Based on 73
		After 12/31/1958	Based on 75

- Non-owner born in 1950 retires 2023: RBD is 4/1/2024
- Participant born in 1951: RBD is 4/1/2025
- Born in 1959: may be 73, may be 75 (need correction)
- Born in 1959: may be 73, may be 75 (need correction)

## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# QBADs

<b>Act Section</b>
311
<b>Code Section</b>
72(t)
<b>Qualified</b>
DC
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
Gov't
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Enactment
<b>Repayment Deadline Mandatory</b>

- Recipient of Qualified Birth and Adoption Distribution (QBAD) can repay it to plan or an IRA
- SECURE 1.0 didn't impose a time limit for repayment
- SECURE 2.0 limits repayment to 3 years, beginning on day after distribution received
  - For distributions received before enactment, new deadline: Must repay before January 1, 2026
    - So, deadline is December 31, 2025
- Can apply to governmental 457(b) plans

# SECURE Act 2.0 – Increased Plan Startup Credit – Administrative Expenses

**APPLICABLE IN 2023**

**Bill Section 102**

Act Section
102
Code Section
45E
Qualified
Yes
403(b)
No
457(b)
No
Eff. Date
Tax years after 2022

- Code §45E allows a credit for up to 50% of plan startup costs for three years for small employers (no more than 100 employees)
  - Based on the year plan established, even if no contributions until later
  - Must have an NHCE in plan
- SECURE 2.0 changes that to 100% of plan startup costs for employers with no more than 50 employees
  - Higher credit can apply to plans established in 2021 or 2022
  - Employee count includes those with at least \$5,000 comp in prior year
  - Same limits: Greater of \$500 or \$250/NHCE up to \$5,000 max
  - Still limited to expenses for administration and education
  - Applies to qualified plans (DB/DC), SEPs, and SIMPLEs

**SOURCES**

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Increased Plan Startup Credit – ER Contributions

**APPLICABLE IN 2023**

**Bill Section 102**

<b>Act Section</b>
102
<b>Code Section</b>
45E
<b>Qualified</b>
DC
<b>403(b)</b>
No
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Tax years after 2022

- Credit for employer contributions to new DC plan, SEP, SIMPLE
  - Match and nonelective
- Full credit available only if employer had 50 or fewer employees
  - Phase out between 50-100
- Maximum credit for any employee is \$1,000
  - No credit in prior year if FICA wages exceeded \$100,000 (indexed)
  - No limitation on more than 5% shareholders
- Credit is 100% of contributions, as limited, for years 1 and 2, 75% in year 3, 50% in year 4, and 25% in year 5
  - Example: plan adopted in 2022; 2023 is year 2

## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Startup Credits – IMPORTANT!

**APPLICABLE IN 2023**

**Bill Section 102**

- If you claim a credit, you can't claim a deduction
  - Impacts computation of earned income for self-employed
- Credit is nonrefundable
  - So, nonprofits can't claim it
- Expense credit calculation example: 12 NHCEs:  
Max Credit \$3,000
  - \$5,000 in expenses
  - Can claim \$3,000 credit and \$2,000 deduction
- IRS Form 8881



## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
[finance.senate.gov](http://finance.senate.gov)

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.

# Roth Employer Contributions

<b>Act Section</b>
604
<b>Code Section</b>
402A
<b>Qualified</b>
DC
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
Gov't
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Contrib. after Enactment
Optional

- Vested employer contributions can be Roth
  - Now all vested contributions can be Roth
  - Could apply to a plan without deferrals
  - Possibly not available to partially vested participant
- Participant must make election to designate as Roth
  - Will require written/electronic election form
  - Separate recordkeeping buckets needed
  - Designate all or selected future contributions as Roth?
- Can apply to 2022 contributions deposited in 2023 (if we get guidance on how to do this)

# Roth Employer Contributions

- Roth employer contributions likely starts 5-year clock, if not already started
  - For year included in income
- Tax reporting
  - Probably appear on Form W-2, box 1 in year contribution made; maybe Form 1099-R
    - Not clear whether these amounts count for FICA/Medicare taxes
    - Employee likely should increase withholding or make estimated tax payments
  - Employee responsible for taxes; employer gets deduction
  - Shouldn't be counted as compensation for plan purposes
  - Alternatively, could be done as in-plan Roth conversation and Form 1099R

# Small Deferral Incentives Allowed

<b>Act Section</b>
113
<b>Code Section</b>
401(k)(4)
<b>Qualified</b>
401(k)
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan Years after 2022
Optional

- §401(k)(4)(A) forbids employers from conditioning bonuses or other benefits (other than a match) on whether employees defer
- New law allows “de minimis financial incentives (not paid for with plan assets)”
  - Could come from employer or others, so long as plan assets not affected
  - Presumably could be tied to amount of deferral
  - Likely no amendment needed
  - \$25 is likely safe; be conservative until there’s guidance
  - Extra vacation day? If paid vacation, not sure it’s de minimis



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Retroactive Sole Proprietor Deferrals

**APPLICABLE IN 2023**

**Bill Section 317**

**Note:**  
Partnerships still  
out in the  
cold...Congress  
didn't specify why.

Act Section
317
Code Section
401(b)
Qualified
401(k)
403(b)
No
457(b)
No
Eff. Date
Plan Years after 2022
Optional

- SECURE 1.0 allowed retroactive plan adoption
  - Up to extended due date of tax return
  - Only applied to employer contributions
- New law allows deferral election for 1st year of retro adopted plan
  - Limited to unincorporated sole proprietor with no employees
    - Could apply to LLC taxed as sole proprietorship
  - Deferral election made after end of tax year, but by filing deadline, treated as made before end of first plan year for retroactively adopted plan
    - First year is 2023 (adopted in 2024)

## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# Retro Deferrals

- Current rules:
  - The deadline to make a deferral election is the last day of the partnership's or sole proprietor's tax year. [Treas. Reg. §1.401(k)-1(a)(6)(iii)]
    - You can fund it later, but the election needs to be in place by last day
  - You can adopt a plan in 2023, and have it retroactively effective for 2022, but it is too late to make deferral election for 2022
- Change provides limited exception, allowing a sole proprietor to adopt plan in 2024, retroactively effective for 2023, and make a 2023 deferral election
  - Provided there were no other employees in 2023
- Partnerships still out in the cold
  - Congress didn't say why

# Notices to “Unenrolled” Participants

<b>Act Section</b>
320
<b>Code Section</b>
Code §414(bb) ERISA §111
<b>Qualified</b>
DC
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan years after 2022
Optional

- Eliminates need to provide notices and disclosures (IRS or DOL) to unenrolled participants, other than:
  - Annual reminder notice
  - Documents unenrolled participant requests
- Unenrolled participant is someone who...
  - Eligible to participate
  - Has received SPD and other notices related to initial eligibility to participate
  - Is not participating in the plan
    - Presumably, employee with ER or rollover money in plan is participating
  - Satisfies other criteria determined by IRS/DOL

# Notes on “Unenrolled Participant” Rules

- Furnished by paper or old (opt in) DOL e-Disclosure rules
- Furnished in connected with open enrollment or (if none) a reasonable period prior to beginning of plan year
- Notifies participant of:
  - Eligibility to participate
  - Key benefits and rights under plan (focus on employer contributions and vesting)
- Calculated to be understood by average participant

# Notes on “Unenrolled Participant” Rules

- Notices you can avoid:
  - Fee and investment disclosures
  - Benefits statements
  - Summary annual reports
  - QDIA/EACA notices
  - Safe harbor notices
- Doesn't excuse you from delivering SMM
- Applies to new plans and existing plans
  - Means that you must maintain 2 different mailing lists



# Can Rely on Employee Certification for Hardships

<b>Act Section</b>
312
<b>Code Section</b>
401(k)(14)
<b>Qualified</b>
401(k)
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
Gov't
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan Years after 2022
<b>Optional</b>

- Allows plan to rely on employee's written certification that:
  - Distribution is on account of deemed immediate and heavy financial need under safe harbor regulations
    - Or governmental 457(b) unforeseeable emergency
  - Distribution doesn't exceed amount of need
  - Employee doesn't have other resources
- IRS can issue regulations addressing:
  - When employer has contrary knowledge
  - Cases of employee misrepresentation



# Hardship Verification

- Plan now has three choices:
  - Get copies of documents showing existence of hardship and amount
    - Only option for non-safe harbor hardships
  - IRS detailed summary verification system (substantiation guidelines)
    - Sponsor must provide information re: hardship rules to participant
    - Sponsor must obtain summary information from the participant
    - Participant required to retain source documents
  - New: Participant certifies existence of hardship and amount
    - I need a \$5,000 hardship distribution to cover medical expenses for my kid
- Many employers want to stick with old systems:
- Can satisfy fiduciary responsibilities with any of the three

# Reduced RMD Penalties

<b>Act Section</b>
302
<b>Code Section</b>
401(a)(9)
<b>Qualified</b>
Yes
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
Yes
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Tax years after 2022

- Late RMDs have been subject to 50% penalty tax
- Automatically reduced to 25%
- Can reduce it to 10% if:
  - Take RMD during correction window
  - Submits return during correction window reflecting tax
  - Available for plans, as well as for IRAs
- Correction window ends:
  - Two years after year RMD should have been taken
  - Unless IRS assesses/issues deficiency notice sooner



# More On Reduced RMD Penalties

- Penalty tax applies in year RMD should have been taken
- Reduced penalty applies to tax years after 2022
- Example: RMD not taken in 2021, 2022, or 2023
  - Discovered in 2024
  - Penalty is 50% for 2021 and 2022; 25% for 2023
    - Potential to reduce 2023 tax to 10%
- Penalty tax can still be forgiven under EPCRS and possibly IRS Form 5329
  - Contact PPS For Assistance



# Statute of Limitations Penalties for RMDs and Excess Contributions

<b>Act Section</b>
313
<b>Code Section</b>
6501
<b>Qualified</b>
No
<b>403(b)</b>
No
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Enactment

- Individual reports RMD and excess IRA contribution penalties on Form 5329
- Old rule: if you don't file the form, you don't start the statute
- Under new law, filing Form 1040 starts the statute
  - 3 years for RMD failures
  - 6 years for excess contributions
- Should apply to assessments of tax after Enactment
  - It could apply to penalties for 2020 that aren't yet assessed

**Remember Participant must take the RMD from Qualified Retirement plan first!**

# Changes That Go Into Effect In 2024



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Long-Term Part-Time Employee **2024 ONLY**

**APPLICABLE IN 2024**

**Bill Section 125**

<b>Act Section</b>
125
<b>Code Section</b>
401(k)(15)
<b>Qualified</b>
401(k)
<b>403(b)</b>
No
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
2024
<b>Mandatory</b>

- Just two changes from SECURE 1.0 for 2024
  - Years of service for vesting limited to years after 2020
- LTPT becomes eligible to defer to 401(k) after 3 consecutive years (after 2020) with 500 – 999 HOS
- Applies to owner-only plan with part-time employees
- Under new regulations (effective for 2023 returns), DC plans count for 5500 purposes employees with account balances

***So Much for the New Audit Rules!***

**SOURCES**

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# Long-Term Part-Time Employee Coverage Changes

<b>Act Section</b>
125
<b>Code Section</b>
401(k)(15)
<b>Qualified</b>
401(k)
<b>403(b)</b>
YES
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan Years after 2024
<b>Mandatory</b>

- LTPT employees are eligible to defer
  - Under new regulations (effective for 2023 returns), DC plans count for 5500 purposes employees with account balances
- LTPT rules added to ERISA §202 and to Code §403(b)(12)(D)
  - Limited to 403(b) plans subject to ERISA
  - Disregard years beginning before 2023 for eligibility and vesting
- LTPT is EE who has 2 consecutive eligibility computation periods with 500 – 999 HOS and attained age 21
  - Used to be 3 consecutive years
- Can exclude LTPT from testing; No minimum # of employees

**2024 Only!**

# SECURE Act 2.0 – SECURE Act 2.0 – Long-Term Part-Time Notes



- 2024 plan years must apply most SECURE 1.0 Rules
  - 3-year eligibility rule
  - Only 2024 changes relate to vesting and top-heavy
- 2025: begins new LTPT Rules
  - 2-year eligibility
  - 403(b) now subject to LTPT
- Could you go with 2-year rule in 2024?
  - Yes, but uncertain whether you get LTPT testing benefits
- Yes, we will do LTPT webinar later in the year

## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Long-Term Part-Time Comparison of 401(k) and 403(b) Rules

## 401(k)

- Ignores years beginning before 2021 for eligibility and vesting
  - All years beginning after 2020 with at least 500 HOS for someone who enters as LTPT count as YOS for vesting
- Requires 3 consecutive years with 500-999 HOS and age 21 for 2024
- Requires 2 consecutive years with 500-999 HOS and age 21 for 2025
  - Could be 2021 and 2022

## ERISA 403(b)

- Ignores years beginning before 2023 for eligibility and vesting
  - All years beginning after 2022 with at least 500 HOS for someone who enters as LTPT count as YOS for vesting
- LTPT has 2 consecutive years with at least 500 HOS and Age 21
- Overrides 20-hour and student-employee exemptions from universal availability

### SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Some Age 50 Catch-Ups Must Be Roth

**APPLICABLE IN 2025, WAS 2024**

## Bill Section 603

Act Section
603
Code Section
414(v)
Qualified
401(k)
403(b)
Yes
457(b)
Gov't
Eff. Date
Tax Years after 2023
<b>Mandatory</b>

- Catch-ups must be Roth for:
  - Participants whose prior calendar year FICA wages from the employer exceeded \$145,000 (indexed)
    - Arguably this excludes self-employed because no FICA wages
    - 5% owner with < \$145,000 can do regular catch-up
  - Means non-Roth plan cannot take catch-ups for these folks
- Would start Roth 5-year clock
- So, ADP or §415 catch-up needs to be Roth
  - Either requires making Roth up front
  - Allowing participant to elect to recharacterize rather than receive distribution (or permit it to be deemed recharacterized)
    - Maybe reflect recharacterization on Form 1099-R

Revenue estimate \$16B

### SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

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# SECURE Act 2.0 – Red Card! Congress Makes Boo-Boo



- In error, when Congress changed catch-up rules for HCE, they amended out the income exclusion for all pre-tax catch-up contributions
- We (and everyone else) expect this will be part of technical corrections bill in near future ...
  - Or that IRS will fix it on their own

# SECURE Act 2.0 – Spousal / Child Attribution Fix

**APPLICABLE IN 2024**

**Bill Section 414**

<b>Act Section</b>
315
<b>Code Section</b>
414
<b>Qualified</b>
Yes
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan years after 2023
<b>Mandatory</b>

- Disregard community property ownership between spouses
  - Allows couples in community property states to use non-involvement exception in controlled group determinations
- Prevents parent-child attribution from creating controlled group between businesses owned separately by the spouses
- Also applies to common control and traditional affiliated service groups
- If this results in breakup of group, coverage transition rule applies
  - Could result in controlled group plan becoming a MEP

**SOURCES**

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Mid-Year Conversion from SIMPLE IRA to Safe Harbor 401(k)

**APPLICABLE IN 2024**

**Bill Section 332(a)**

Current law does not allow an employer to change from a SIMPLE IRA to a 401(k) mid-year.

SECURE 2.0 allows an employer to replace a SIMPLE IRA plan with a SIMPLE 401(k) plan or other 401(k) that requires mandatory employer contributions during a plan year and is effective for plan years beginning after December 31, 2023.



## **SOURCES**

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
[finance.senate.gov](http://finance.senate.gov)

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.

# SECURE Act 2.0 – New “Starter 401(k)”

## APPLICABLE IN 2024

### Bill Section 121

Act Section
121
Code Section
401(k)(16)
Qualified
401(k)
403(b)
No
457(b)
No
Eff. Date
Plan Years after 2023
Optional

- Deferral-only 401(k) plan with no ADP and no top heavy
  - Must apply to all eligible employees
    - All who satisfy minimum age and service (no limit on # EEs)
    - Can exclude union and nonresident alien
  - Automatic enrollment at 3% - 15% (uniform)
  - Maximum deferral = \$6,000 (indexed) + IRA catch-up
  - No ER contribution; ⚠️ rollovers likely ok
- ERISA plan subject to ERISA rules and Form 5500 filing
- No limit on how long a company can use a Starter 401(k)
  - Employer can't have another qualified plan that year
  - Conceivably could be part of MEP or PEP

#### SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Student Loan Repayments Matched Like Deferrals

**APPLICABLE IN 2024**  
**Bill Section 110**

Act Section
110
Code Section
401(m)
Qualified
401(k)
403(b)
Yes
457(b)
Govt
Eff. Date
Plan Years after 2023
Optional

- Applies to “Qualified Student Loan Payment”
  - Incurred on behalf of employee ⚠️ (not employee’s children)
  - For qualified higher education expenses
    - Applies to current payments, not past
    - Expenses incurred while carrying at least half-time full student load
  - Can’t exceed §402(g) limit minus elective deferrals
    - Payments don’t reduce §402(g) limit; excess payments not matched
- Employee must annually certify payment made on loan
  - Employer may rely on certification

## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Matching Contribution Specifics

**APPLICABLE IN 2024**

**Bill Section 110**

- If plan matches student loan payments:
  - It must do so at same rate as match on elective deferrals
    - Add deferrals and loan repayments
    - Uncertain how this applies to payroll period match
  - Match would be in ACP test/ACP safe harbor
  - The match related to the loan must vest in the same manner as match on deferrals (100% if ACP safe harbor match)
- Eligibility limited to employees otherwise eligible to receive match for elective deferrals
  - So, included in coverage test for deferrals and match and Form 5500 count



## **SOURCES**

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.

# Emergency Savings Accounts (“ESAs”)

<b>Act Section</b>
127
<b>Code Section</b>
402A(e)
<b>Qualified</b>
401(k)
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
Govt
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan Years after 2023
<b>Optional</b>

- Plans can set up pension-linked ESAs:
  - Limited to Roth accounts
  - Limited to employee contributions
  - No new contributions if account balance of account exceeds \$2,500 (subject to indexing) or lower plan-specified amount
  - Limit applies to portion of account “attributable to contributions”
  - Presumably, contributions net of withdrawals (i.e., not including earnings)

# Emergency Savings Accounts (“ESAs”)



If Excess Contributions Made, Plan Can:

- Allow participant to treat excess as regular Roth deferral
- Treat excess as Roth deferral unless participant opts out
- Not accept the contribution; plan does not permit excess to be treated as catch-up



# More on Emergency Savings Accounts (“ESAs”)



Investment can have gains and losses, although required investment intended to be very safe:

- Interest bearing account; or
- Investment designed to preserve capital consistent with liquidity, offered by regulated institution

Must treat emergency savings like deferrals for purposes of match

- Match goes in match bucket, not in ESA
- No requirement to forfeit or suspend match on withdrawals
- Maximum annual match with regards to ESAs is \$2,500

# More on Emergency Savings Accounts (“ESAs”)



- Contributions may count against §402(g) limit
  - §402(g) failures must be corrected first by returning that year's ESA \$
  - Since HCEs can't use ESA, §402(g) and §415 may be academic
- Can't charge account (including for Form 1099 preparation) a fee for the first 4 withdrawals/year
  - Subsequent withdrawals can have reasonable fee
  - Can charge employer or general plan accounts, must exhaust ESA before taking hardship
- Can do auto-enroll up to 3%
  - Can combine with auto-enroll for regular deferrals

# More on Emergency Savings Accounts (“ESAs”)



- ESAs treated like another source
  - Although subject to different investment and withdrawal rules
- Distributions “at discretion of” participant
  - Sounds like no need for spousal consent
  - No minimum withdrawal
- Distribution treated as qualified Roth distribution
  - Allows tax-free distribution of earnings
  - Not subject to normal Roth 5-year clock/distributable event rules

# Termination of Emergency Savings Accounts (“ESAs”)

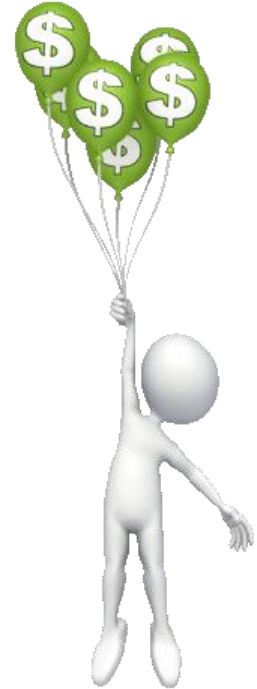


- Employer can terminate arrangement at any time
  - No anti-cutback right
- After termination of employment or arrangement:
  - Participant can choose to move money to another Roth account in plan
    - And roll from there to a Roth IRA or other Roth account
  - Otherwise, plan makes account available to participant
    - Participant’s choice

# Increase Cash-Out Limit

<b>Act Section</b>
304
<b>Code Section</b>
411(a)(11)
<b>Qualified</b>
Yes
<b>403(b)</b>
Yes
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Distributions after 2023
Optional

- Cash-out limit is currently \$5,000
- Impacts
  - Auto rollovers
  - Distributions without consent
  - Distributions exempt from QJSA
  - DB and DC
- Increased to \$7,000 (not indexed)
  - Can implement operationally as of 1/1/2024 and amend by 2025/2027
- No change in participant notices



# Changes That Go Into Effect After 2024



# Long-Term Part-Time Employee Coverage Changes

<b>Act Section</b>
125
<b>Code Section</b>
401(k)(15)
<b>Qualified</b>
401(k)
<b>403(b)</b>
YES
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan Years after 2024
<b>Mandatory</b>

- LTPT employees are eligible to defer
  - Under new regulations (effective for 2023 returns), DC plans count for 5500 purposes employees with account balances
- LTPT rules added to ERISA §202 and to Code §403(b)(12)(D)
  - Limited to 403(b) plans subject to ERISA
  - Disregard years beginning before 2023 for eligibility and vesting
- LTPT is EE who has 2 consecutive eligibility computation periods with 500 – 999 HOS and attained age 21
  - Used to be 3 consecutive years
- Can exclude LTPT from testing; No minimum # of employees

# Long-Term Part-Time Notes

<b>Act Section</b>
125
<b>Code Section</b>
401(k)(15)
<b>Qualified</b>
401(k)
<b>403(b)</b>
YES
<b>457(b)</b>
No
<b>Eff. Date</b>
Plan Years after 2024
<b>Mandatory</b>

- 2024 plan years must apply most SECURE 1.0 Rules
  - 3-year eligibility rule
  - Only 2024 changes relate to vesting and top-heavy
- 2025: begins new LTPT Rules
  - 2-year eligibility
  - 403(b) now subject to LTPT
- Could you go with 2-year rule in 2024?
  - Yes, but uncertain whether you get LTPT testing benefits



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Mandatory Automatic Enrollment

## APPLICABLE IN 2025

### Bill Section 101

Beginning in 2025, employers who have more than 10 employees and have been in business for three or more years must implement an automatic enrollment provision for a 401(k) plan or 403(b) plan established on or after December 29<sup>th</sup> 2022.

The initial deferral percentage must be at least 3 percent but cannot exceed 10 percent. The percentage must automatically increase each year by 1 percent until reaching at least 10 percent (but not exceeding 15 percent).

- Non safe harbor plans cannot exceed a 10 percent deferral rate for plan years ending before January 1, 2025.
- Automatically enrolled participants may affirmatively elect to defer a higher or lower percentage or may choose not to defer.
- This provision does not apply to church or governmental plans.

**(Effective for 2025 and later plan years.)**

Additionally...  
Auto enrollment & Auto-increase feature isn't required in plans until 2025 but all plans established on or after December 29<sup>th</sup> 2022, will need to add auto enrollment / increase features.

#### SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Mandatory Automatic Enrollment

## APPLICABLE IN 2025

### Bill Section 101

- Plans established before 12/29/2022 – [Code 414A(c)(2), SECURE 101]
  - Conservative approach: adopted and effective before 12/29/2022
  - Uncertain about grandfather for spin-offs
- Plans sponsored by ER that normally employs fewer than 11 EEs
  - Presumably includes part-time and new hires
  - Exemption expires 1 year after close of first tax year following the employer exceeding limit
    - Example: Calendar year employer has 9 employees in 2024, and grows to 11 in 2025
    - Mandatory auto enrollment applies in 2027
  - Controlled group rules probably apply

#### SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – IRS Savers Tax Credit Becomes Savers Matching Contribution

## 2025 Current Credit:

**Beginning in 2027 for tax year 2026. Current Saver Tax Credit will continue until 2026.**

SECURE 2.0 revises the Saver's Credit by making it a government paid matching contribution. Taxpayers will claim the credit on their tax return and the matching contribution will be deposited to a Traditional IRA or to the pretax deferral account of a 401(k), 403(b) plan, or governmental 457(b) plan.

- Match is 0% to 50% of deferrals, depending on modified adjusted gross income. (add back retirement plan deductions / exclusions)
- Gradual phase-out over indexed MAGI range

Filing Status	50% Match	0% Match
Joint	\$41,000	\$71,000
Head of Household	\$30,750	\$53,250
Single / Separate Returns	\$20,500	\$35,500

## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Higher Catch-Up Contribution Limit

## APPLICABLE IN 2025 Bill Section 109

Current law allows catch-up contributions to begin at age 50.

Participants who attain age 60, 61, 62, and 63 during a given taxable year may make additional “catch-up” salary deferral contributions to 401(k) plans, 403(b) plans, governmental 457(b) plans, SAR-SEP plans, SIMPLE IRA plans, and SIMPLE 401(k) plans.



- Section 109 increases limits to the greater of \$10,000 or 50% more than the regular catch-up amount in 2025 for individuals ages 60 through 63.
- 150% of 2024 catch-up limit (indexed for inflation after 2025)
  - Based on 2023 limit (\$7,500), in those 4 years catch-up would be:
    - \$5,250 for SIMPLE IRA / 401(k)
    - \$11,250 for other plans

### SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
[finance.senate.gov](http://finance.senate.gov)

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



# SECURE Act 2.0 – Long-Term Care Insurance

**APPLICABLE IN 2024**  
**Bill Section 334**

Code Section
401(a)(39)
Qualified
Yes
403(b)
Yes
457(b)
Yes
Eff. Date
Distributions after 12/29/25
Optional

- SECURE 2.0 allows Qualifies Long-Term Care Distributions
  - Distributable event
- Annual calendar year limit is least of:
  - Amount employee paid or is charged for long-term care insurance for employee, spouse, or family member
  - 10% vested accrued benefit
  - \$2,500 (indexed)
- Limited to taxable distributions
  - Exempt from early distribution penalty tax



## SOURCES

Pension Plan Specialists, PC  
finance.senate.gov

For a more complete list of SECURE 2.0 provisions, please review the Congressional Summary, released by the Senate Finance Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.



Pension Plan  
Specialists, PC

*Thank  
You*

Any Questions?