

March, 2018

Welcome to Fiduciary Insights, the monthly newsletter that keeps you in touch with issues, trends, events, and insights of significance to individuals connected with the retirement plan industry. The articles have been carefully selected from a variety of high quality sources.

General Items

The Saver's Credit
Retirement Plan Trends to Watch in 2018
Why Auto Portability Makes Everything Better

Fiduciary and Plan Governance Material

Fiduciary Fundamentals for 2018
How Can Fiduciaries Use New Tax Cuts to Nudge 401k and IRA Retirement Savers?
The Fiduciary Rule: Mistaken Beliefs

Insights: Studies, Research and White Papers

Will Millennials Be Ready for Retirement?
How to "Pensionize" Any IRA or 401k Plan
Employer Contributions to 401ks Show Steady Increase
Frequently Asked Questions About 401k Plan Research

Compliance and Regulatory Related

Time for SEC to Take Fiduciary Baton From DOL
New Excessive Fee Litigators Emerge
Tax Reform Impacts Retirement Benefits
Bill Would Provide New Safe Harbor for Annuity Provider Selection

General Items

The Saver's Credit

Abstract: The saver's credit is an income tax credit of up to 50% of 401k employee contributions that is available for certain taxpayers with income that does not exceed \$63,000. Source: Consultrms.com

Full Article Available Here --->> <http://www.consultrms.com/Resources/37/Saver-s-Credit/67/The-Saver-s-Credit>

Retirement Plan Trends to Watch in 2018

Abstract: Plan sponsors are ramping up benefits education efforts and increasingly empowering employees to take charge of their healthcare and retirement savings. They're doing this in a variety of ways outlined here. Source: 401ktv.com

Full Article Available Here --->> <https://401ktv.com/sponsors-retirement-plan-trends-watch-2018/>

Why Auto Portability Makes Everything Better

Abstract: In the realm of retirement savings, auto portability is the public policy equivalent of bacon, great by itself, but even better when mixed with other retirement initiatives. In fact, for many public policy plans to be palatable, auto portability is an essential ingredient. Source: 401kspecialistmag.com

Full Article Available Here --->> <https://401kspecialistmag.com/auto-portability-makes-everything-better/>

Fiduciary and Plan Governance Material

Fiduciary Fundamentals for 2018

Abstract: In both teaching and spirit, Trust Law instructs ERISA. Trusts are characterized by the relationship between the trustee and the beneficiary of the assets dominated by the former's fiduciary duties to the latter. The relationship between the trustee and beneficiary is measured and recognized not by the result of the interaction but the sincerity of the behaviors that yield the result. Source: 401khelpcenter.com

Full Article Available Here --->>
http://www.401khelpcenter.com/401k/shikes_fiduciary_fundamentals_2018.html

How Can Fiduciaries Use New Tax Cuts to Nudge 401k and IRA Retirement Savers?

Abstract: There's a chance for savers to increase the odds they'll retire in comfort thanks to the 2017 tax law. Here's how, but the window of opportunity will close fast. Source: Fiduciarynews.com

Full Article Available Here --->> <http://fiduciarynews.com/2018/01/can-fiduciaries-use-new-tax-cuts-nudge-401k-ira-retirement-savers/>

The Fiduciary Rule: Mistaken Beliefs

Abstract: The myth is that broker-dealers and RIAs -- and their advisors -- must only recommend the lowest cost investments. For example, mutual funds with the lowest expense ratios. That is not correct. Source: Fredreish.com

Full Article Available Here --->> <http://fredreish.com/interesting-angles-on-the-dols-fiduciary-rule-78/>

[Insights: Studies, Research and White Papers](#)

Will Millennials Be Ready for Retirement?

Abstract: It finds that Millennials -- despite high education levels -- are behind previous cohorts on many indicators that help boost retirement preparedness. This difficult start, combined with high levels of student debt, has delayed them from getting married and buying a home. Source: Bc.edu

Full Article Available Here --->> http://crr.bc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/IB_18-2.pdf

How to "Pensionize" Any IRA or 401k Plan

Abstract: American workers face three challenges in a DC world: Inadequate savings, Leakage, and Generating retirement income. This 19-page white paper focuses on solutions to the third challenge while acknowledging the importance of the first two. Source: Stanford.edu

Full Article Available Here --->> <http://longevity.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/How-to-pensionize-any-IRA-401k-final.pdf>

Employer Contributions to 401ks Show Steady Increase

Abstract: Ascensus data shows the number of employers funding employer contributions increased from 53% in 2013 to 81% in 2016, and data gathered from Strategic Insight finds the amount of employer's contributions have increased from \$108.1 billion in 2010 to \$139.2 billion in 2016. Source: Planadviser.com

Full Article Available Here --->> <https://www.planadviser.com/employer-contributions-401ks-show-steady-increase/>

Frequently Asked Questions About 401k Plan Research

Abstract: The Investment Company Institute has updated their FAQ on 401k retirement plans. Some of the questions covered include: What is a 401k plan and how does it work? How have 401k plans grown since their introduction? What are the benefits of investing in a 401k plan? Is there a limit to how much an employee and employer can contribute to a 401k plan? Source: Ici.org

Full Article Available Here --->> https://www.ici.org/policy/retirement/plan/401k/faqs_401k

Compliance and Regulatory Related

Time for SEC to Take Fiduciary Baton From DOL

Abstract: With the core of the DOL fiduciary rule in place and the rest of it delayed for 18 months, can advisers expect all to be quiet on the fiduciary front in 2018? In a word, no. The regulatory baton has been passed from the DOL to the SEC and it's likely we will see an SEC fiduciary rule proposal by midyear. Source: Investmentnews.com (registration may be required)

Full Article Available Here --->>

<http://www.investmentnews.com/article/20180102/FREE/180109997/time-for-sec-to-take-fiduciary-baton-from-dol>

New Excessive Fee Litigators Emerge

Abstract: A new excessive fee suit has been filed -- this time against a hospital's retirement plan -- and from a different direction. What is most interesting about this litigation is that the plaintiffs are represented by counsel that doesn't appear to have a track record in ERISA litigation. Source: Napa-net.org

Full Article Available Here --->> <http://www.napa-net.org/news/technical-competence/erisa/new-excessive-fee-litigators-emerge/>

Tax Reform Impacts Retirement Benefits

Abstract: Certain provisions included in H.R. 1 impact retirement plans. Retirement-related provisions included in the Act apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017. Plan sponsors should review the information contained in this publication and the Act to understand the new provisions and potential impacts to their plans. Source: Prudential.com

Full Article Available Here --->> http://www.retire.prudential.com/media/managed/Analyst_Tax-Reform_0118.pdf

Bill Would Provide New Safe Harbor for Annuity Provider Selection

Abstract: The bipartisan bill clarifies and strengthens existing rules to make it easier for retirement plan sponsors to provide guaranteed lifetime income products as part of their employee benefits. It intends to amend ERISA and lays out specific criteria for selecting an annuity benefit provider. Source: Planadviser.com

Full Article Available Here --->> <https://www.planadviser.com/bill-provide-new-safe-harbor-annuity-provider-selection/>

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