Department of Labor’s EBSA Releases Interim Final Rule Regarding Lifetime Income Stream Illustrations in Pension Benefit Statements

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) issued an interim final rule, with request for comments, on August 18 that, when applicable, will implement section 203 of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act of 2019. The act, which was signed into law in December 2019, makes changes to pension benefit statements under section 105 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), requiring annual lifetime income disclosure, setting forth the lifetime income stream equivalent of total benefits accrued.

The interim final rule, when final, will require retirement plans to provide lifetime income illustrations as well as explanations of the assumptions used to calculate the illustrations. The rule will be effective 12 months after the final rule is published and provides a 60-day comment period. The EBSA also released a fact sheet on the interim final rule.

If you have any questions regarding this Academy Alert, please contact Philip Maguire, pension policy analyst (maguire@actuary.org; 202-785-7865).

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