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**HOUSE BILL 1966**

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**State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Stanford, Vick, Kirby, and Ormsby

AN ACT Relating to the minimum operating requirements and the review of plans necessary to be included in the small business retirement marketplace; and amending RCW 43.330.735 and 43.330.750.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

**Sec.**  RCW 43.330.735 and 2015 c 296 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The Washington small business retirement marketplace is created.

(2) Prior to connecting any eligible employer with an approved plan in the marketplace, the director shall design a plan for the operation of the marketplace.

(3) The director shall consult with the Washington state department of retirement systems, the Washington state investment board, and the department of financial institutions in designing and managing the marketplace.

(4) The director shall approve for participation in the marketplace all private sector financial services firms that meet the requirements of RCW 43.330.732(7).

(5) A range of investment options must be provided to meet the needs of investors with various levels of risk tolerance and various ages. The director must approve a diverse array of private retirement plan options that are available to employers on a voluntary basis, including but not limited to life insurance plans that are designed for retirement purposes, and ((~~at least two types of~~)) plans for eligible employer participation such as: (a) A SIMPLE IRA-type plan that provides for employer contributions to participating enrollee accounts; and (b) a payroll deduction individual retirement account type plan or workplace-based individual retirement accounts open to all workers in which the employer does not contribute to the employees' account.

(6)(a) Prior to approving a plan to be offered on the marketplace, the department must receive verification from the department of financial institutions ((~~and~~)) or the office of the insurance commissioner:

((~~(a)~~)) (i) That the private sector financial services firm offering the plan meets the requirements of RCW 43.330.732(7); and

((~~(b)~~)) (ii) That the plan meets the requirements of this section excluding subsection (9) of this section which is subject to federal laws and regulations. ((~~The director may remove approved plans that no longer meet the requirements of this chapter.~~))

(b) If the plan includes either life insurance or annuity products, or both, the office of the insurance commissioner may request that the department of financial institutions conduct the plan review as provided in (a)(ii) of this subsection prior to submitting its verification to the department.

(c) The director may remove approved plans that no longer meet the requirements of this chapter.

(7) The financial services firms participating in the marketplace must offer a minimum of two product options: (a) A target date or other similar fund, with asset allocations and maturities designed to coincide with the expected date of retirement and (b) a balanced fund. The marketplace must offer myRA.

(8) In order for the marketplace to operate, there must be at least two ((~~financial services firms offering~~)) approved plans on the marketplace; however, nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the number of private sector financial services firms with approved plans from participating in the marketplace.

(9) Approved plans must meet federal law or regulation for internal revenue service approved retirement plans.

(10) The approved plans must include the option for enrollees to roll pretax contributions into a different individual retirement account or another eligible retirement plan after ceasing participation in a plan approved by the Washington small business retirement marketplace.

(11) Financial services firms selected by the department to offer approved plans on the marketplace may not charge the participating employer an administrative fee and may not charge enrollees more than one hundred basis points in total annual fees and must provide information about their product's historical investment performance. Financial services firms may charge enrollees a de minimis fee for new and/or low balance accounts in amounts negotiated and agreed upon by the department and financial services firms.

(12) Participation in the Washington small business retirement marketplace is voluntary for both eligible employers and qualified employees.

(13) Enrollment in any approved plan offered in the marketplace is not an entitlement.

**Sec.**  RCW 43.330.750 and 2015 c 296 s 9 are each amended to read as follows:

The director shall adopt rules necessary to allow the marketplace to operate as authorized by this subchapter. As part of the rule development process, the director shall consult with organizations representing eligible employers, qualified employees, private and nonprofit sector retirement plan administrators and providers, organizations representing private sector financial services firms, and any other individuals or entities that the director determines relevant to the development of an effective and efficient method for operating the marketplace. ((~~The rules must be proposed by January 1st of the year of implementation and rules shall not be adopted until after the end of the regular legislative session of that year.~~)) The director or the director's designee may take the actions necessary to ensure this act is implemented on the effective date of this section.

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