

News Release



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Labor Department Solicits Nominations For 2004 ERISA Advisory Council

WASHINGTON--The U.S. Department of Labor is soliciting nominations to fill five three-year vacancies on the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans, also known as the ERISA Advisory Council. The deadline for receipt of nominations is Oct. 1, 2003.

Under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), the bipartisan council consists of 15 members appointed by the Secretary of Labor to represent specified groups and fields that are involved in employee benefits. The council meets four times a year and makes recommendations to the Secretary of Labor regarding functions carried out under ERISA.

Nominations are being accepted for one vacancy in each of the following groups or fields:

- Employers (a representative of an organization representing employer groups and interests);
- Employees and/or employee organizations (this person must represent an organization whose members participate in a multi-employer plan);
- General public (this member must represent persons actually receiving benefits from a private-sector retirement plan);
- Actuarial (a person who is an actuary or represents an actuarial firm), and
- Investment counseling (an investment counselor for a private-sector retirement plan or a representative of an investment counseling firm).

Interested persons or organizations may nominate qualified persons for membership. Recommendations must be submitted by letter, resolution or petition and signed by the person or, in the case of an organizational nomination, by the group's representative making the recommendation. The nomination should briefly describe the candidate's qualifications, the group or field the candidate is being nominated for, the candidate's political party affiliation and availability to serve. This information is requested because ERISA mandates that no more than eight members of the council may represent one political party.

The notice soliciting nominations is to be published in the Federal Register on Aug. 29, 2003. Nominations should be submitted to Sharon Morrissey, Executive Secretary of the ERISA Advisory Council, Room N-5677, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20210.

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