
From: Kim Miller [mailto:panoramakim@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 11:59 AM
To: EBSA, E-ORI - EBSA
Subject: Lifetime Annuity Investment Option

Dear lawmakers,

I was reading in the newspaper today that you wished public input on enacting legislation to offer life-time annuities as a rollover option to 401(k) plans. *I most wholeheartedly feel that it would be a wonderful idea.*

Having worked in a university environment under a Public Retirement defined benefit plan and now taking advantage of it, I have had many people ask me how I was so lucky. People have a really hard time imagining the day when they retire and justifying saving enough. If they have trouble putting money aside, being "forced" to do it is a necessary option.

Having worked in benefits, I found that the young people starting out in their careers with the university did not like the fact that CalPERS was taken (or Social Security for that matter) thinking they'll invest that money better on their own or will have enough time and needed the money now. On the flip side, I have good friends who worked for county and state agencies, had the money deducted all those years and now upon the cusp of retiring can not believe their lucky stars that they had this cushion - forgetting that they had helped make that happen by having the agency invest it for them. People are notoriously poor saving for retirement and even worse at picking the best investment plans for themselves.

I think that all people would benefit if they had some money invested for them and available as a life-time annuity (Social Security and a Defined benefit plan), a 401(k) or 403(b) and personal savings. That way they are not just relying on one stream of retirement income when they get older.

Now we need to help people plan for long term care....

Yours,

Kim Miller
Former Human Resources Specialist