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Standards for Brokerage Windows in Participant-Directed Individual Account Plans

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General Comment

As I work in the field of retirement plans and speak to plan participants, I ask "Please do not allow brokerage windows in retirement plans". The majority of the plan participants are not well-versed in stock diversification strategies. These same plan participants can (and are) easily misled by the "quick" return information that they hear daily on radio/tv advertisements and could easily decide to buy that stock through the brokerage window option. They do so without proper investigation of the stock. That puts their retirement account at a much greater risk of losing money and not having an adequate/good account balance with which to retire when the time comes.

If an employee wants to invest in stocks through a brokerage window, they can do so outside of the plan as a personal choice for their available cash.

I reiterate, please do not allow for brokerage window investments within an employer's qualified retirement plan investment funds.

Thank you.