

# American Benefits Council

## Benefits Briefing Webinar

### Health & Retirement Benefits After *Windsor*

**Wednesday, September 4, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET**

Notice originally sent August 20, 2013

#### **BENEFITS BRIEFING: Frequently Asked Questions – Health & Retirement Benefits After *Windsor***

**Wednesday, September 4, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET**

The American Benefits Council will host a **Benefits Briefing webinar** on **Wednesday, September 4, at 2 p.m. Eastern Time**, to discuss U.S. Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidance, issued on August 29, related to retirement and health benefit plan plans in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent *Windsor* decision, which struck down Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act of 1996 defining a spouse only as a person of the opposite sex.

The U.S. Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has issued [initial guidance](#) (along with its own FAQs on [same-sex spouses](#) and [domestic partnerships/civil unions](#)) stating that “same-sex couples, legally married in jurisdictions that recognize their marriages, will be treated as married for federal tax purposes ... regardless of whether the couple lives in a jurisdiction that recognizes same-sex marriage or a jurisdiction that does not recognize same-sex marriage.” This Benefits Briefing webinar will discuss this and other federal agency activity as it relates to your plan administration questions.

**Lynn Dudley**, senior vice president, retirement and international benefits policy, and **Kathryn Wilber**, senior counsel, health policy, will moderate the call.

They will be joined by **Rob Neis**, Deputy Benefits Tax Counsel at the Treasury Department, who will discuss the Treasury guidance announced on August 29.

Also on hand will be **Seth Perretta** and **Malcolm Slee**, from *Crowell & Moring*, who will discuss the implications for health plans, and **Michael Hadley** and **Kent Mason**, from *Davis & Harman LLP*, who will discuss the implications for retirement plans.

Members are encouraged to [submit other questions and comments in advance](#).

**Background:**

As we reported in the [June 26 Benefits Byte](#), the U.S. Supreme Court [officially struck down](#) key provisions of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) by upholding the Second Circuit Court of Appeals decision in *United States vs. Windsor*. The Council was the only national employer organization to join numerous major employers in filing [an amicus \(friend-of-the-court\) brief in the Windsor case](#), which focused on the significant administrative burdens to employers and unequal tax treatment to employees that is imposed by DOMA in those states that have recognized same sex marriage. The Council has also made available a comprehensive [Benefits Blueprint summary](#) focusing on the DOMA case and its implications for employer sponsors of benefit plans.

**New:** Council webinars may be used toward continuing education/renewal requirements for many professional accreditation programs, but only by means of self-certification. Descriptions of past programs are available by [clicking here](#). Please retain your registration confirmation for your verification records.

***For questions related to registration – or if you have colleagues at your organization who would like to participate in this call, but do not regularly receive Council materials – please contact [Deanna Johnson](#), director, membership, or [Sondra West](#), membership services coordinator, at (202) 289-6700.***