# The CARES Act

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stimulus Act

How can it help you?



#### Overview

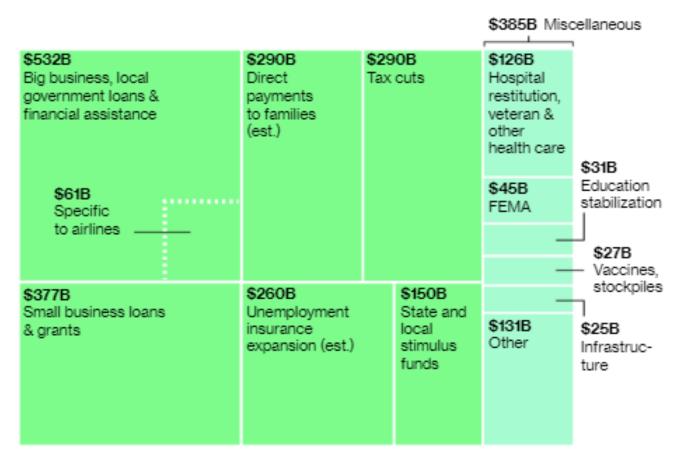
- The CARES Act was signed into law on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by President Donald Trump.
- The CARES Act authorizes more than \$2 trillion to battle COVID-19 and its economic effects, including...
  - Immediate cash relief for individual citizens
  - Loan programs for small business
  - Support for hospitals and other medical providers
  - Various types of economic relief for impacted businesses and industries





## Where \$2 Trillion In Rescue Funds Will Go

- \$500B in company loans
- \$350B in small business aid
- \$600/week unemployment for up to four months
- \$198B in funds to tackle the virus
- Extra \$484 billion in funding for PPP and hospital



Source: U.S. Senate, Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, Bloomberg research



# Breaking Down the CARES Act

#### Purpose of CARES Act is to Provide Support for...

- Keeping American Workers Paid and Employed
  - i.e. The Paycheck Protection Program: Goal is to keep small businesses running. Loans are designed to keep employees on payroll
- American Workers, Families, and Businesses
  - i.e. Stimulus checks up to \$1,200 per individual plus \$500 per child
- The Fight Against Coronavirus
  - i.e. Free testing and free vaccination for Coronavirus once it is available
- Economic Stabilization
  - i.e. Loans for mid-sized and large-sized companies
- Coronavirus Relief Funds
  - i.e. \$150 billion will be provided to states to help cover costs associated with Coronavirus



# How the CARES Act Can Help You & Your Family

- Free Coronavirus Testing
- Paid Sick and Family Leave
- Expanded Unemployment Coverage
- Extension for Filing and Paying Taxes
- Stimulus Checks for Individuals, Couples, and Children
- Mortgage, Rent, Foreclosure, and Eviction Relief

- Student Loan Payment Suspension
- New Charitable Giving Incentives
- IRA RMD Holiday
- Penalty-Free Withdrawal from IRAs and Retirement Plans
- Low Interest, Possibly Forgivable Loans for Small Businesses (PPP and EIDL)
- Payroll Tax Credit and Deferment



# Free Coronavirus Testing

- FFCRA provides free coronavirus testing to all Americans
- All copayments are waived
- \$130 billion of funding to go towards the following:
  - \$60 million to Department of Veterans Affairs to test veterans
  - \$64 million to the Indian Health Service to test members of Native American tribes
  - \$1 billion to National
     Disaster Medical System to test those without health insurance





## Time Off Benefits Available to You

- If employee cannot work due to own health condition, 2 weeks paid sick leave is provided at full rate
- If employee cannot work due to caregiving responsibilities, 2 weeks additional paid sick leave at 2/3 the rate is provided
- For employees who cannot work due to lost access to childcare (includes school) up to 10 weeks of additional family/medical leave at 2/3 the rate is provided
- Self employed individuals also qualify for benefits





# Changes to Unemployment

- Each individual can receive an additional 13 weeks of unemployment benefits
- A temporary Pandemic
   Unemployment Assistance
   program for those who do not
   typically qualify for
   unemployment
- Unemployment checks will be increased by \$600 per week for four months through July as well as an additional 13 weeks





# Extensions to Filing and Paying Taxes

- Tax day is normally April 15<sup>th</sup>, however the CARES Act is providing an extension through July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- There is no limit to the amount of taxes owed that can be postponed
- IRA and HSA deadlines also extended until July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Social Security recipients don't need to file tax returns





## Stimulus Money Q&A

- What are Stimulus Checks?
  - One time payment from US Government
- Do I qualify?
  - All US residents qualify
    - Except those who are claimed as dependents
  - Payments phase out for individuals making over \$75,000 and couples making \$150,000 / year.
  - Can receive up to \$1,200 plus \$500 per dependent child
- Do Stimulus Checks Have to be Repaid?
  - No, payments are funded by the Federal Government with no strings attached





### **Debt Relief**

- Many credit card companies are offering forgiveness and many mortgage companies are foregoing interest
- The FHA has imposed a 60 day foreclosure and eviction moratorium for single family homeowners with FHA insured mortgages
- Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are suspending foreclosures and evictions for at least 60 days as of March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020





# Updates to Student Loan Payments

- Required payments on Federal student loans are suspended until September, 2020 (Direct Loans and FFEL Loans)
- During this time, no interest will accrue on this debt
- This period of time will continue to count towards ANY loan forgiveness programs. (such as the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program or income-driven payment programs)
- These loan benefits don't cover older FFEL loans held by commercial lenders and campus-based Perkins loans, or any private loans





# Updates to Charitable Giving

- There is now a \$300 above-the-line deduction of cash contributions to churches and other charitable organizations for 2020
- Individuals now have no adjusted gross income limit on charitable contributions in 2020 (50% AGI limitation to 100%) Corporation's charitable contributions limit was raised from 10% to 25%
- Provision is meant to encourage people to continue charitable donations to non-profits in this time of need





## Updates to Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)

- You are not required to take a RMD for 2020
  - Why would you want to draw RMDs calculated on December 2019 values from accounts that are down 30%?
- This applies to inherited and beneficiary IRAs
- If you took an RMD you didn't have to earlier this year you can check to see if you are eligible to rollover the amount back into your retirement account





## Updates to Withdraws from IRAs

- CARES Act provides an exception to the 10% early distribution penalty
- Distributions will be included in gross income over three years, taxes will be spread over a three-year period
  - Or you can opt to include the income in 2020
- Through December 31, 2020, individuals can take a loan from a qualified plan up to the lesser of \$100,000 or 100% of the vested account balance
  - They doubled the allowable amount
- No limits to what you can use the funds for as long as you pay them back over 3
  years



#### Interest Rates for Small Businesses

- The Paycheck Protection Program provides \$349B in 100% federally guaranteed loans
  - Congress approved an additional \$310B in funds for the PPP
- Loans are designed to ensure continued employment of employees
- PPP is for payroll related costs for the previous year and covers businesses with less than 500 employees
- Borrows apply at participating banks and loans will be forgiven if wage levels are maintained during an 8-week period starting on the loan's origin date



## Refundable Payroll Tax Credit

- Credit is available to small business owners whose...
  - Operations were fully or partially suspended due to a COVID-19 shutdown order
  - Gross receipts declined by more than 50% when compared to the same quarter in the prior year
- For eligible employers with 100 or fewer full-time employees
  - All employee wages qualify for the credit whether the employer is open for business or subject to a shutdown order
- The credit is for the first \$10,000 of compensation, including health benefits, paid to an eligible employee





# The SECURE Act

Changes to Retirement Saving, Inheritances, and Debt Repayment

How will it impact you?



### Overview

- The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act was signed into law on December 20, 2019 by President Donald Trump
- The goal is to help Americans in their journey to a more comfortable retirement
- As a result, changes have been made to...
  - Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)
  - 401(k) programs
  - Penalty-free withdrawals in regards to family planning
  - Loan repayments
  - IRAs





## Required Minimum Distributions

- The Required Minimum Distribution age is being raised from 70 1/2 to 72
  - Note: This is for anyone who has not reached the age of 70 1/2 by the end of 2019
- This allows for an extra 18 months for individual's funds to grow before distributions are required
- This was done to help those who lost account value in the stock market due to COVID-19, so they can hopefully earn more money before distributions
- Individuals who reach age 72 will still be able to delay their first RMD until April 1
  of the year following the year
  - However, delaying will require a second distribution by the end of the year



# IRA Contributions

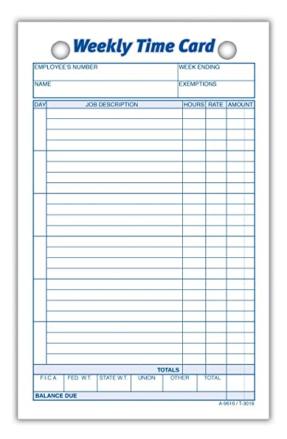
- Investors can now contribute to their Traditional IRAs after they reach the age of 70 1/2
- Individuals or their spouse needs to have earned income in order to be eligible to contribute to the IRA





# 401(k) Programs

- 401(k) plans will now be available to certain part-time employees
- In order to be eligible, a part-time employee must satisfy at least one of the two requirements...
  - 1. The 'old' 1,000 hour rule
  - 2. Have worked at least 500 hours for three consecutive years
- Changes will begin to apply to plans in 2021
- 2024 is the earliest year in which a part-time employee could qualify





# Penalty-Free Withdrawals For Family Planning

- Families will now have the ability to take a qualified distribution from an IRA account due to the birth or adoption of a child
- Allows for a "Qualified Birth or Adoption Distribution" of up to \$5,000 for each child being born or adopted
- Both of the child's parents are able to make a qualified distribution of up to \$5,000 for each child being born or adopted





## **Expanded Annuity Options in Retirement Plans**

- Before the SECURE Act, the option to have an annuity within a 401(k) was available
  - Due to increased fiduciary responsibility for the employer, it was not promoted as an
    effective way to save for retirement
  - Individuals were also concerned about actually receiving a lifetime of income guarantee
- The Secure Act alleviated some of this concern by creating a fiduciary safe harbor for selecting the annuity option
- The Secure Act also gives clients more information that can allow them to evaluate how the annuity option could work for them.
  - Effective 12 months after the Department of Labor issues guidance, defined contribution plans will be required to provide participants with lifetime income estimates.
- Secure Act also makes the annuity portable once the plan participant has chosen the lifetime income option (the ability to transfer from account to account)
- The SECURE Act created a new "Distributable Event" (i.e. separation of service, death, attainment of age 59 1/2) that applies just to annuities when they are no longer allowed as an investment option within a plan
- Participants are allowed to distribute their plan annuity starting 90 days prior to the elimination of the annuity as a investment plan option

## Auto-Enrollment in 401(k) Plans

- The SECURE Act now provides a credit for small businesses utilizing the automatic enrollment feature
- The purpose is to encourage small businesses to utilize auto-enrollment by giving a Section 105 credit of up to \$500
- Small businesses must have an "Eligible Automatic Enrollment Arrangement" in order to qualify for the credit
- Starting in 2020, the default maximum percentage of compensation that an employer can set for automatic enrollment increases from 10% to 15%
  - In any year after the first full plan year in which the employee's compensation is deferred into the plan



#### **Small Business Tax Credits**

- Qualified small businesses can now receive up to a \$500 credit for 3 years for startup costs related to establishing a retirement plan
  - i.e. 401(k), 403(b), SEP IRA, or SIMPLE IRA
- Qualified businesses are businesses with 100 or fewer employees receiving \$5,000 or more of compensation
- Tax years beginning January 1, 2020 (and up to three years after), the maximum credit available under IRC Section 45E will be increased to the greater of:
  - 1. \$500 or
  - 2. The lesser of:
    - a. \$250 x the number of employees eligible to participate in the plan; or
    - b. \$5,000



## Graduate and Post-Doctoral Study

- Students affected by COVID-19 are now eligible to start saving for retirement earlier
- Individuals are able to use funds from 529 Plans for student loan repayments up to \$10,000
- Those with taxable stipends used in the pursuit of graduate or post-doctoral studies can now use these amounts to contribute to an IRA for tax purposes





# Credit Card Access to 401(k) Loans

- The SECURE Act disallows the ability to pay 401(k) loans with credit cards or similar means
- The purpose is to maintain debt control





#### Inherited IRAs

- Prior to the SECURE Act individuals were able to stretch the withdraws of an inherited IRA over their single life expectancy
  - Now Inherited IRAs must be depleted within 10 years of receiving the inheritance
- There are 5 groups to which the new 10-year depletion rule will not apply...
  - 1. Spouse Beneficiaries
  - 2. Disabled Beneficiaries
  - 3. Chronically III Beneficiaries
  - 4. Individuals who less than 10 years younger than the descendant
  - 5. Certain Minor Children (of the original account owner), until they reach the age of majority



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