



ED SLOTT'S IRA ADVISOR

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TAX & ESTATE PLANNING FOR YOUR RETIREMENT SAVINGS

SPECIAL ISSUE!

New IRA Rules: IRS Changes Everything We Know About Taking Required Distributions

Thank the IRS! They may have just saved you and your IRA beneficiaries a fortune in taxes. We no longer have to wait for Congress. The IRS has come through and the IRA distribution rules will never be the same. On January 11, 2001 the IRS issued new Proposed Regulations that are effective right now. In fact, they are retroactive to January 1, 2001.

Everything you know about the distribution rules has changed and for the better.

The new rules also apply to qualified plans (401(k)s, 403(b)s, etc.). But these plans must first be amended to reflect the new rules.

Some have asked how these rules can be effective now if they are only Proposed Regulations? The rules that were in effect all this time (since 1987) were also Proposed Regulations and were never finalized. These rules amend the old Proposed Regulations. This is the first major change to the minimum distribution rules in all that time. And the changes are massive.

This month's issue is entirely devoted to the new distribution rules and we'll be

covering these rules in many upcoming issues. Not everything is clear yet but there are some new planning opportunities that have already developed.

This month's Guest IRA expert is Barry C. Picker, CPA/PFS, CFP from Brooklyn, New York. In a special issue like this one, who better to feature than Barry Picker. He is the technical editor of this newsletter and has already devoured these new rules. Barry's article "*Disclaiming an IRA*" highlights new post-death planning options using disclaimers. Barry is also the author of the first book I know of on the new IRA rules. It's called "*Barry Picker's Guide to Retirement Distribution Planning*."

It's \$24.95. To order it, call 800-809-0015.

Inside, you'll also find charts you can use to figure out how required distributions will work under the new rules. These charts will answer most of your questions in a simple format. That's why we're kicking off this first issue on the new rules with them.

For more IRA information, to download the full text of the new Proposed Regulations or the new Uniform Distribution Table, visit our website at www.ira-help.com.

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