

**[DISCUSSION DRAFT]**114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to authorize a new composite multiemployer pension plan design, and for other purposes.

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M\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to authorize a new composite multiemployer pension plan design, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Multiemployer Pension  
5 Modernization Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMPOSITE PLANS.**

2 (a) AMENDMENT TO THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT  
3 INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the Employee Re-  
5 tirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C.  
6 1001 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the  
7 following:

8 **“PART 8—COMPOSITE PLANS AND LEGACY**  
9 **PLANS**

10 **“SEC. 801. COMPOSITE PLAN DEFINED.**

11 “(a) COMPOSITE PLAN DEFINED.—For purposes of  
12 this Act, the term ‘composite plan’ means a pension  
13 plan—

14 “(1) which is a multiemployer plan that is nei-  
15 ther a defined benefit plan nor a defined contribu-  
16 tion plan;

17 “(2) the terms of which provide that the plan  
18 is a composite plan for purposes of this title with re-  
19 spect to which not more than one multiemployer de-  
20 fined benefit plan is treated as a legacy plan within  
21 the meaning of section 805, unless there is more  
22 than one legacy plan following a merger of composite  
23 plans under section 806;

24 “(3) which provides systematically for the pay-  
25 ment of benefits—

1           “(A) objectively calculated pursuant to a  
2           formula enumerated in the plan document with  
3           respect to plan participants after retirement,  
4           for life; and

5           “(B) in the form of life annuities, except  
6           for benefits which under section 203(e) may be  
7           immediately distributed without the consent of  
8           the participant;

9           “(4) for which the plan contributions for the  
10          first plan year are at least 120 percent of the nor-  
11          mal cost for the plan year;

12          “(5) which requires—

13                 “(A) an annual valuation of the liability of  
14                 the plan as of a date within the plan year to  
15                 which the valuation refers or within one month  
16                 prior to the beginning of such year;

17                 “(B) an annual actuarial determination of  
18                 the plan’s current funded ratio and projected  
19                 funded ratio under section 802(a); and

20                 “(C) corrective action through a realign-  
21                 ment program pursuant to section 803 when-  
22                 ever the plan’s projected funding ratio is below  
23                 120 percent for the plan year; and

24           “(6) the board of trustees of which includes at  
25          least one retiree or beneficiary in pay status during

1 each plan year following the first plan year in which  
2 at least 5 percent of the participants in the plan are  
3 retirees or beneficiaries in pay status.

4 “(b) COMPOSITE PLAN FEATURE MAY BE ADDED TO  
5 A MULTIEMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor of a de-  
7 fined benefit plan that is a multiemployer plan may  
8 amend the plan to incorporate the features of a com-  
9 posite plan as a component of the multiemployer  
10 plan separate from the defined benefit plan compo-  
11 nent, except in the case of a defined benefit plan for  
12 which the plan actuary has certified under section  
13 305(b)(3) that the plan is or will be in critical status  
14 for the plan year in which such amendment would  
15 become effective or for any of the succeeding 5 plan  
16 years.

17 “(2) SPECIAL RULES.—If a multiemployer plan  
18 is amended pursuant to paragraph (1)—

19 “(A) the requirements of this title and title  
20 IV shall be applied to the composite plan com-  
21 ponent and the defined benefit plan component  
22 of the multiemployer plan as if each such com-  
23 ponent were maintained as a separate plan; and

24 “(B) the assets of the composite plan com-  
25 ponent and the defined benefit plan component

1 of the plan shall be held in a single trust form-  
2 ing part of the plan under which the trust in-  
3 strument expressly provides—

4 “(i) for separate accounts (and appro-  
5 priate records) to be maintained to reflect  
6 the interest which each of the plan compo-  
7 nents has in the trust, including separate  
8 accounting for additions to the trust for  
9 the benefit of each plan component, dis-  
10 bursements made from each plan compo-  
11 nent’s account in the trust, investment ex-  
12 perience of the trust allocable to that ac-  
13 count, and administrative expenses (wheth-  
14 er direct expenses or shared expenses allo-  
15 cated proportionally), and permits, but  
16 does not require, the pooling of some or all  
17 of the assets of the two plan components  
18 for investment purposes; and

19 “(ii) that the assets of each of the two  
20 plan components shall be held, invested,  
21 reinvested, managed, administered and dis-  
22 tributed for the exclusive benefit of the  
23 participants and beneficiaries of each such  
24 plan component, and in no event shall the  
25 assets of one of the plan components be

1 available to pay benefits due under the  
2 other plan component.

3 “(3) REFERENCES TO COMPOSITE PLAN COM-  
4 PONENT.—As used in this part, the term ‘composite  
5 plan’ includes a composite plan component added to  
6 a defined benefit plan pursuant to paragraph (1).

7 “(c) COORDINATION WITH FUNDING RULES.—Ex-  
8 cept as otherwise provided in this title, sections 302, 304,  
9 and 305 shall not apply to a composite plan.

10 “(d) TREATMENT OF A COMPOSITE PLAN.—For pur-  
11 poses of this Act (other than sections 302 and 4245), a  
12 composite plan shall be treated as if it were a defined ben-  
13 efit plan unless a different treatment is provided for under  
14 applicable law.

15 **“SEC. 802. FUNDED RATIOS; ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS.**

16 “(a) CERTIFICATION OF FUNDED RATIOS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the 120th  
18 day of each plan year of a composite plan, the plan  
19 actuary of the composite plan shall certify to the  
20 Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the  
21 plan sponsor the plan’s current funded ratio and  
22 projected funded ratio for the plan year.

23 “(2) DETERMINATION OF CURRENT FUNDED  
24 RATIO AND PROJECTED FUNDED RATIO.—For pur-  
25 poses of this section:

1           “(A) CURRENT FUNDED RATIO.—The cur-  
2           rent funded ratio is the ratio (expressed as a  
3           percentage) of—

4                   “(i) the value of the plan’s assets as  
5                   of the first day of the plan year, to

6                   “(ii) the plan actuary’s best estimate  
7                   of the present value of the plan liabilities  
8                   as of the first day of the plan year.

9           “(B) PROJECTED FUNDED RATIO.—The  
10           projected funded ratio is the current funded  
11           ratio projected to the first day of the 15th plan  
12           year following the plan year for which the de-  
13           termination is being made.

14           “(3) CONSIDERATION OF CONTRIBUTION RATE  
15           INCREASES.—For purposes of projections under this  
16           subsection, the plan sponsor may anticipate con-  
17           tribution rate increases beyond the term of the cur-  
18           rent collective bargaining agreement and any agreed-  
19           to supplements, up to a maximum of 2.5 percent per  
20           year, compounded annually, unless it would be un-  
21           reasonable under the circumstances to assume that  
22           contributions would increase by that amount.

23           “(b) ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS.—  
24           For purposes of this part:

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—All costs, liabilities, rates  
2 of interest and other factors under the plan shall be  
3 determined for a plan year on the basis of actuarial  
4 assumptions and methods—

5                   “(A) each of which is reasonable (taking  
6 into account the experience of the plan and rea-  
7 sonable expectations);

8                   “(B) which, in combination, offer the actu-  
9 ary’s best estimate of anticipated experience  
10 under the plan; and

11                   “(C) with respect to which any change  
12 from the actuarial assumptions and methods  
13 used in the previous plan year shall be certified  
14 by the plan actuary and the actuarial rationale  
15 for such change provided in the annual report  
16 required by section 103.

17           “(2) FAIR MARKET VALUE OF ASSETS.—The  
18 value of the plan’s assets shall be taken into account  
19 on the basis of their fair market value.

20           “(3) DETERMINATION OF NORMAL COST AND  
21 PLAN LIABILITIES.—A plan’s normal cost and liabil-  
22 ities shall be based on the most recent actuarial  
23 valuation required under section 801(a)(5)(A) and  
24 the unit credit funding method.



1           “(4) TIME WHEN CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS  
2           DEEMED MADE.—Any contributions for a plan year  
3           made by an employer after the last day of such plan  
4           year, but not later than two and one-half months  
5           after such day, shall be deemed to have been made  
6           on such last day. For purposes of this paragraph,  
7           such two and one-half month period may be ex-  
8           tended for not more than six months under regula-  
9           tions prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

10           “(5) ADDITIONAL ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS.—  
11           Except where otherwise provided in this part, the  
12           provisions of section 305(b)(3)(B) shall apply to any  
13           determination or projection under this part.

14   **“SEC. 803. REALIGNMENT PROGRAMS.**

15           “(a) REALIGNMENT PROGRAM.—

16           “(1) ADOPTION.—In any case in which the plan  
17           actuary certifies under section 802(a) that the plan’s  
18           projected funded ratio is below 120 percent for the  
19           plan year, the plan sponsor shall adopt a realign-  
20           ment program under paragraph (2) not later than  
21           210 days after the due date of the certification re-  
22           quired under such section 802(a). The plan sponsor  
23           shall adopt an updated realignment program for  
24           each succeeding plan year for which a certification  
25           described in the preceding sentence is made.

1           “(2) CONTENT OF REALIGNMENT PROGRAM.—

2           “(A) IN GENERAL.—A realignment pro-  
3           gram adopted under this paragraph is a written  
4           program which consists of all reasonable meas-  
5           ures, including options or a range of options to  
6           be undertaken by the plan sponsor or proposed  
7           to the bargaining parties, formulated, based on  
8           reasonably anticipated experience and reason-  
9           able actuarial assumptions, to enable the plan  
10          to achieve a projected funding ratio of at least  
11          120 percent for the following plan year.

12          “(B) INITIAL PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Rea-  
13          sonable measures under a realignment program  
14          described in subparagraph (A) may include any  
15          of the following:

16                 “(i) Proposed contribution increases.

17                 “(ii) A reduction in the rate of future  
18                 benefit accruals, so long as the resulting  
19                 rate is not less than 1 percent of the con-  
20                 tributions on which benefits are based as  
21                 of the start of the plan year (or the equiva-  
22                 lent standard accrual rate as described in  
23                 section 305(e)(6)).

24                 “(iii) A modification or elimination of  
25                 adjustable benefits of participants that are

1 not in pay status before the date of the no-  
2 tice required under subsection (b)(1).

3 “(iv) Any other lawfully available  
4 measures not specifically described in this  
5 subparagraph or subparagraph (C) or (D)  
6 that the plan sponsor determines are rea-  
7 sonable.

8 “(C) ADDITIONAL PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—  
9 If the plan sponsor has determined that all rea-  
10 sonable measures available under subparagraph  
11 (B) will not enable the plan to achieve a pro-  
12 jected funded ratio of at least 120 percent for  
13 the following plan year, such reasonable meas-  
14 ures may also include—

15 “(i) a reduction of accrued benefits  
16 that are not in pay status by the date of  
17 the notice required under subsection  
18 (b)(1); or

19 “(ii) a reduction of any benefits of  
20 participants that are in pay status before  
21 the date of the notice required under sub-  
22 section (b)(1) other than core benefits as  
23 defined in paragraph (4).

24 “(D) ADDITIONAL REDUCTIONS.—In the  
25 case of a composite plan for which the plan

1 sponsor has determined that all reasonable  
2 measures available under subparagraphs (B)  
3 and (C) will not enable the plan to achieve a  
4 projected funded ratio of at least 120 percent  
5 for the following plan year, such reasonable  
6 measures may also include—

7 “(i) a further reduction in the rate of  
8 future benefit accruals without regard to  
9 the limitation applicable under subpara-  
10 graph (B)(ii); or

11 “(ii) a reduction of core benefits,  
12 provided that such reductions shall be equitably  
13 distributed across the participant and bene-  
14 ficiary population, taking into account factors,  
15 with respect to participants and beneficiaries  
16 and their benefits, that may include one or  
17 more of the factors listed in subclauses (I)  
18 through (X) of section 305(e)(9)(D)(vi), to the  
19 extent necessary to enable the plan to achieve  
20 a projected funded ratio of at least 120 percent  
21 for the following plan year, or at the election of  
22 the plan sponsor, a projected funded ratio of at  
23 least 100 percent for the following plan year  
24 and a current funded ratio of at least 90 per-  
25 cent.

1           “(3) ADJUSTABLE BENEFIT DEFINED.—For  
2 purposes of this part, the term ‘adjustable benefit’  
3 means—

4           “(A) benefits, rights, and features under  
5 the plan, including post-retirement death bene-  
6 fits, 60-month guarantees, disability benefits  
7 not yet in pay status, and similar benefits;

8           “(B) any early retirement benefit or retire-  
9 ment-type subsidy (within the meaning of sec-  
10 tion 204(g)(2)(A)) and any benefit payment op-  
11 tion (other than the qualified joint and survivor  
12 annuity); and

13           “(C) benefit increases that were adopted  
14 (or, if later, took effect) less than 60 months  
15 before the first day such realignment program  
16 took effect.

17           “(4) CORE BENEFIT DEFINED.—For purposes  
18 of this part, the term ‘core benefit’ means a partici-  
19 pant’s accrued benefit payable in the normal form of  
20 an annuity commencing at normal retirement age,  
21 determined without regard to—

22           “(A) any early retirement benefits, retire-  
23 ment-type subsidies, or other benefits, rights, or  
24 features that may be associated with that ben-  
25 efit; and

1           “(B) any cost-of-living adjustments or ben-  
2           efit increases effective after the date of retire-  
3           ment.

4           “(5) COORDINATION WITH CONTRIBUTION IN-  
5           CREASES.—

6           “(A) IN GENERAL.—A realignment pro-  
7           gram may provide that some or all of the ben-  
8           efit modifications described in the program will  
9           only take effect if the bargaining parties fail to  
10          agree to specified levels of increases in contribu-  
11          tions to the plan, effective as of specified dates.

12          “(B) INDEPENDENT BENEFIT MODIFICA-  
13          TIONS.—If a realignment program adopts any  
14          changes to the benefit formula that are inde-  
15          pendent of potential contribution increases,  
16          such changes shall take effect not later than the  
17          first day of the first plan year that begins fol-  
18          lowing the adoption of the realignment pro-  
19          gram.

20          “(C) CONDITIONAL BENEFIT MODIFICA-  
21          TIONS.—If a realignment program adopts any  
22          changes to the benefit formula that take effect  
23          only if the bargaining parties fail to agree to  
24          contribution increases, such changes shall take  
25          effect not later than the first day of the first

1 plan year beginning after the third anniversary  
2 of the date of adoption of the realignment pro-  
3 gram.

4 “(D) REVOCATION OF CERTAIN BENEFIT  
5 MODIFICATIONS.—Benefit modifications de-  
6 scribed in subparagraph (C) may be revoked, in  
7 whole or in part, and retroactively or prospec-  
8 tively, when contributions to the plan are in-  
9 creased, as specified in the realignment pro-  
10 gram, including any amendments thereto. The  
11 preceding sentence shall not apply unless the  
12 contribution increases are to be effective not  
13 later than the fifth anniversary of the first day  
14 of the first plan year that begins after the  
15 adoption of the realignment program.

16 “(b) NOTICE.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which it is  
18 certified under section 802(a) that the projected  
19 funded ratio is less than 120 percent, the plan spon-  
20 sor shall, not later than 30 days after the date of  
21 the certification, provide notification of the current  
22 and projected funded ratios to the participants and  
23 beneficiaries, the bargaining parties, and the Sec-  
24 retary. Such notice shall include—

1           “(A) an explanation that contribution rate  
2           increases or benefit reductions may be nec-  
3           essary;

4           “(B) a description of the types of benefits  
5           that might be reduced; and

6           “(C) an estimate of the contribution in-  
7           creases and benefit reductions that may be nec-  
8           essary to achieve a projected funded ratio of  
9           120 percent.

10          “(2) NOTICE OF BENEFIT MODIFICATIONS.—

11           “(A) IN GENERAL.—No modifications may  
12           be made that reduce the rate of future benefit  
13           accrual or that reduce core benefits or adjust-  
14           able benefits unless notice of such reduction has  
15           been given at least 30 days before the general  
16           effective date of such reduction for all partici-  
17           pants and beneficiaries to—

18           “(i) plan participants and bene-  
19           ficiaries;

20           “(ii) each employer who has an obliga-  
21           tion to contribute to the composite plan;  
22           and

23           “(iii) each employee organization  
24           which, for purposes of collective bar-



1           gaining, represents plan participants em-  
2           ployed by such employers.

3           “(B) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—The notice  
4           under subparagraph (A) shall contain—

5                   “(i) sufficient information to enable  
6                   participants and beneficiaries to under-  
7                   stand the effect of any reduction on their  
8                   benefits, including an illustration of any  
9                   affected benefit or subsidy, on an annual  
10                  or monthly basis that a participant or ben-  
11                  eficiary would otherwise have been eligible  
12                  for as of the general effective date de-  
13                  scribed in (A) above, and

14                   “(ii) information as to the rights and  
15                   remedies of plan participants and bene-  
16                   ficiaries as well as how to contact the De-  
17                   partment of Labor for further information  
18                   and assistance, where appropriate.

19           “(C) FORM AND MANNER.—Any notice  
20           under subparagraph (A)—

21                   “(i) shall be provided in a form and  
22                   manner prescribed in regulations of the  
23                   Secretary of Labor,

1                   “(ii) shall be written in a manner so  
2                   as to be understood by the average plan  
3                   participant.

4                   “(3) MODEL NOTICES.—The Secretary shall—

5                   “(A) prescribe model notices that the plan  
6                   sponsor of a composite plan may use to satisfy  
7                   the notice requirements under this subsection;  
8                   and

9                   “(B) by regulation enumerate any details  
10                  related to the elements listed in paragraph (1)  
11                  that any notice under this subsection must in-  
12                  clude.

13                  “(4) ELECTRONIC DELIVERY.—The Secretary  
14                  shall by regulation permit any notice under this part  
15                  to be provided by electronic means, so long as phys-  
16                  ical copies are provided to participants and bene-  
17                  ficiaries upon request.

18                  **“SEC. 804. LIMITATION ON INCREASING BENEFITS.**

19                  “(a) LEVEL OF CURRENT FUNDED RATIOS.—Except  
20                  as provided in subsections (c), (d), and (e), no plan  
21                  amendment increasing benefits or establishing new bene-  
22                  fits under a composite plan may be adopted for a plan  
23                  year unless—

1           “(1) the plan’s current funded ratio is at least  
2           110 percent (without regard to the benefit increase  
3           or new benefits);

4           “(2) taking the benefit increase or new benefits  
5           into account, the current funded ratio is at least 100  
6           percent and the projected funded ratio for the cur-  
7           rent plan year is at least 120 percent;

8           “(3) in any case in which, after taking the ben-  
9           efit increase or new benefits into account, the cur-  
10          rent funded ratio is less than 140 percent and the  
11          projected funded ratio is less than 140 percent, the  
12          benefit increase or new benefits are projected by the  
13          plan actuary to increase the present value of the  
14          plan’s liabilities for the plan year by not more than  
15          3 percent; and

16          “(4) expected contributions for the current plan  
17          year are at least 120 percent of normal cost for the  
18          plan year, determined using the unit credit funding  
19          method and treating the benefit increase or new ben-  
20          efits as in effect for the entire plan year.

21          “(b) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS WHERE CORE**  
22          **BENEFITS REDUCED.**—If a plan has been amended to re-  
23          duce core benefits pursuant to a realignment program  
24          under section 803(a)(2)(D), such plan may not be subse-

1    requently amended to increase core benefits unless the  
2    amendment—

3           “(1) increases the level of future benefit pay-  
4           ments only; and

5           “(2) provides for an equitable distribution of  
6           benefit increases across the participant and bene-  
7           ficiary population, taking into account the extent to  
8           which the benefits of participants were previously re-  
9           duced pursuant to such realignment program.

10          “(c) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE  
11    LAW.—Subsection (a) shall not apply in connection with  
12    a plan amendment if the amendment is required as a con-  
13    dition of qualification under part I of subchapter D of  
14    chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or to com-  
15    ply with other applicable law.

16          “(d) EXCEPTION WHERE MAXIMUM DEDUCTIBLE  
17    LIMIT APPLIES.—Subsection (a) shall not apply in con-  
18    nection with a plan amendment if and to the extent that  
19    contributions to the composite plan would not be deduct-  
20    ible for the plan year under section 404(a)(1)(E) of the  
21    Internal Revenue Code of 1986 if the plan amendment is  
22    not adopted.

23          “(e) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN BENEFIT MODIFICA-  
24    TIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply in connection with

1 a plan amendment under section 803(a)(5)(C), regarding  
2 conditional benefit modifications.

3 “(f) TREATMENT OF PLAN AMENDMENTS.—For pur-  
4 poses of this section—

5 “(1) if 2 or more plan amendments increasing  
6 benefits or establishing new benefits are adopted in  
7 a plan year, such amendments shall be treated as a  
8 single amendment adopted on the last day of the  
9 plan year;

10 “(2) all benefit increases and new benefits  
11 adopted in a single amendment are treated as a sin-  
12 gle benefit increase, irrespective of whether the in-  
13 creases and new benefits take effect in more than  
14 one plan year; and

15 “(3) increases in contributions or decreases in  
16 plan liabilities which are scheduled to take effect in  
17 future plan years may be taken into account in con-  
18 nection with a plan amendment if they have been  
19 agreed to in writing or otherwise formalized by the  
20 date the plan amendment is adopted.

21 **“SEC. 805. COMPOSITE PLAN RESTRICTIONS TO PRESERVE**  
22 **LEGACY PLAN FUNDING.**

23 “(a) TREATMENT AS A LEGACY PLAN.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this part  
25 and parts 2 and 3, a defined benefit plan shall be

1 treated as a legacy plan with respect to a composite  
2 plan to the extent to which a class of employees who  
3 were eligible to accrue a benefit under the defined  
4 benefit plan become eligible to accrue a benefit  
5 under such composite plan.

6 “(2) COMPONENT PLANS.—In any case in  
7 which a defined benefit plan is amended to add a  
8 composite plan component pursuant to section  
9 801(b), paragraph (1) shall be applied by sub-  
10 stituting ‘defined benefit component’ for ‘defined  
11 benefit plan’ and ‘composite plan component’ for  
12 ‘composite plan’.

13 “(3) ELIGIBLE TO ACCRUE A BENEFIT.—For  
14 purposes of paragraph (1), an employee is consid-  
15 ered eligible to accrue a benefit under a composite  
16 plan as of the first day of the month following the  
17 first month in which the employee completes an hour  
18 of service under a collective bargaining agreement  
19 that provides for contributions to the composite plan  
20 and eliminates accruals in the legacy plan.

21 “(4) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.—  
22 As used in this part, the term ‘collective bargaining  
23 agreement’ includes any agreement under which an  
24 employer has an obligation to contribute to a plan.

1           “(5) OTHER TERMS.—Any term used in this  
2 part which is not defined in this part and which is  
3 also used in section 305 shall have the same mean-  
4 ing provided such term in such section.

5           “(b) RESTRICTIONS ON ACCEPTANCE BY COMPOSITE  
6 PLAN OF AGREEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS.—

7           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor of a com-  
8 posite plan shall not accept or recognize a collective  
9 bargaining agreement (or any modification to such  
10 agreement), and no contributions may be accepted  
11 and no benefits may be accrued or otherwise earned  
12 under the agreement, unless the agreement requires  
13 each employer who is a party to such agreement to  
14 provide contributions to the legacy plan with respect  
15 to such composite plan in a manner that satisfies  
16 the transition contribution requirements of sub-  
17 section (d).

18           “(2) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after a  
19 determination by a plan sponsor of a composite plan  
20 that an agreement fails to satisfy the requirements  
21 described in paragraph (1), the plan sponsor shall  
22 provide notification of such failure and the reasons  
23 for such determination—

24           “(A) to the parties to the agreement;

1           “(B) to active participants of the com-  
2           posite plan who have ceased to accrue or other-  
3           wise earn benefits with respect to service with  
4           an employer pursuant to paragraph (1); and

5           “(C) to the Secretary, the Secretary of the  
6           Treasury, and the Pension Benefit Guaranty  
7           Corporation.

8           “(3) LIMITATION ON RETROACTIVE EFFECT.—  
9           This subsection shall not apply to benefits accrued  
10          before the date on which notice is provided under  
11          paragraph (2).

12          “(c) RESTRICTION ON ACCRUAL OF BENEFITS  
13          UNDER A COMPOSITE PLAN.—

14                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which an  
15                 employer, under a collective bargaining agreement  
16                 entered into after the date of the enactment of the  
17                 Multiemployer Pension Modernization Act of 2016,  
18                 ceases to have an obligation to contribute to a multi-  
19                 employer defined benefit plan for one or more class-  
20                 es of employees, no such class of employees em-  
21                 ployed by the employer may accrue or otherwise earn  
22                 benefits under any composite plan, with respect to  
23                 service with that employer, for a 60-month period  
24                 beginning on the date on which the employer entered  
25                 into such collective bargaining agreement.



1           “(2) NOTICE OF CESSATION OF OBLIGATION.—  
2           Within 30 days of determining that an employer has  
3           ceased to have an obligation to contribute to a leg-  
4           acy plan with respect to one or more classes of em-  
5           ployees employed by an employer that is or will be  
6           contributing to a composite plan with respect to  
7           service of such employees, the plan sponsor of the  
8           legacy plan shall notify the plan sponsor of the com-  
9           posite plan of that cessation.

10           “(3) NOTICE OF CESSATION OF ACCRUALS.—  
11           Not later than 30 days after receiving a notice under  
12           paragraph (2) and determining the accuracy of the  
13           information, the plan sponsor of the composite plan  
14           shall notify the bargaining parties, the active partici-  
15           pants affected by the cessation of accruals, the Sec-  
16           retary, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Pen-  
17           sion Benefit Guaranty Corporation of the cessation  
18           of accruals, the period during which such cessation  
19           is in effect, and the reasons therefor.

20           “(4) LIMITATION ON RETROACTIVE EFFECT.—  
21           This subsection shall not apply to benefits accrued  
22           before the date on which notice is provided under  
23           paragraph (3).

24           “(d) TRANSITION CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—A collective bargaining  
2 agreement satisfies the transition contribution re-  
3 quirements of this subsection if the agreement—

4           “(A) authorizes payment of contributions  
5 to a legacy plan at a rate or rates equal to or  
6 greater than the transition contribution rate es-  
7 tablished by the legacy plan under paragraph  
8 (2); and

9           “(B) does not provide for—

10           “(i) a suspension of contributions to  
11 the legacy plan with respect to any period  
12 of service; or

13           “(ii) any new direct or indirect exclu-  
14 sion of younger or newly hired employees  
15 of the employer from being taken into ac-  
16 count in determining contributions owed to  
17 the legacy plan.

18           “(2) TRANSITION CONTRIBUTION RATE.—

19           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The transition con-  
20 tribution rate for a plan year is the contribution  
21 rate that, as certified by the actuary of the leg-  
22 acy plan in accordance with the principles in  
23 section 305(b)(3)(B), is reasonably expected to  
24 be adequate—

1 “(i) to fund the normal cost for the  
2 plan year;

3 “(ii) to amortize the plan’s unfunded  
4 liabilities in level annual installments over  
5 25 years, beginning with the plan year in  
6 which the transition contribution rate is  
7 first established; and

8 “(iii) to amortize any subsequent  
9 changes in the legacy plan’s unfunded li-  
10 ability due to experience gains or losses,  
11 changes in actuarial assumptions, changes  
12 to the legacy plan’s benefits, or changes in  
13 funding method over a period of 15 plan  
14 years beginning with the plan year in  
15 which such change in unfunded liability is  
16 incurred.

17 The transition contribution rate for any plan  
18 year may not be less than the transition con-  
19 tribution rate for the plan year in which such  
20 rate is first established.

21 “(B) MULTIPLE RATES.—If different rates  
22 of contribution are payable to the legacy plan  
23 by different employers or for different classes of  
24 employees, the certification shall specify a tran-

1           sition contribution rate for each such employer  
2           or class of employees.

3           “(C)   RATE   APPLICABLE   TO   EM-  
4           PLOYER.—

5           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-  
6           vided by clause (ii), the transition con-  
7           tribution rate applicable to an employer for  
8           a plan year is the rate in effect for the  
9           plan year of the legacy plan that com-  
10          mences on or after 180 days before the  
11          earlier of—

12                   “(I) the effective date of the col-  
13                   lective bargaining agreement pursuant  
14                   to which the employer contributes to  
15                   the legacy plan; or

16                   “(II) 5 years after the last plan  
17                   year for which the transition contribu-  
18                   tion rate applicable to the employer  
19                   was established or updated.

20           “(ii) EXCEPTION.—The transition  
21           contribution rate applicable to an employer  
22           for the first plan year beginning on or  
23           after the commencement of the employer’s  
24           obligation to contribute to the composite  
25           plan is the rate in effect for the plan year

1 of the legacy plan that commences on or  
2 after 180 days before such first plan year.

3 “(D) EFFECT OF LEGACY PLAN FINANCIAL  
4 CIRCUMSTANCES.—If the plan actuary of the  
5 legacy plan has certified under section 305 that  
6 the plan is in endangered or critical status for  
7 a plan year, the transition contribution rate for  
8 the following plan year is the rate determined  
9 with respect to the employer under the legacy  
10 plan’s funding improvement or rehabilitation  
11 plan under section 305, if greater than the rate  
12 otherwise determined, but in no event greater  
13 than 75 percent of the sum of the contribution  
14 rates applicable to the legacy plan and the com-  
15 posite plan for the plan year.

16 “(E) OTHER ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS  
17 AND METHODS.—Except as provided in sub-  
18 paragraph (A), the determination of the transi-  
19 tion contribution rate for a plan year shall be  
20 based on actuarial assumptions and methods  
21 consistent with the minimum funding deter-  
22 minations made under section 304 (or, if appli-  
23 cable, section 305) with respect to the legacy  
24 plan for the plan year.

1           “(F) ADJUSTMENTS IN RATE.—The plan  
2           sponsor of a legacy plan from time to time may  
3           adjust the transition contribution rate or rates  
4           applicable to an employer under this paragraph  
5           by increasing some rates and decreasing others  
6           if the actuary certifies that such adjusted rates  
7           in combination will produce projected contribu-  
8           tion income for the plan year beginning on or  
9           after the date of certification that is not less  
10          than would be produced by the transition con-  
11          tribution rates in effect at the time of the cer-  
12          tification.

13          “(G) NOTICE OF TRANSITION CONTRIBU-  
14          TION RATE.—The plan sponsor of a legacy plan  
15          shall provide notice to the parties to collective  
16          bargaining agreements pursuant to which con-  
17          tributions are made to the legacy plan of  
18          changes to the transition contribution rate re-  
19          quirements at least 30 days before the begin-  
20          ning of the plan year for which the rate is effec-  
21          tive.

22          “(H) NOTICE TO COMPOSITE PLAN SPON-  
23          SOR.—Not later than 30 days after a deter-  
24          mination by the plan sponsor of a legacy plan  
25          that a collective bargaining agreement provides

1 for a rate of contributions that is below the  
2 transition contribution rate applicable to one or  
3 more employers that are parties to the collective  
4 bargaining agreement, the plan sponsor of the  
5 legacy plan shall notify the plan sponsor of any  
6 composite plan under which employees of such  
7 employer would otherwise be eligible to accrue  
8 a benefit.

9 “(3) CORRECTION PROCEDURES.—Pursuant to  
10 standards prescribed by the Secretary, the plan  
11 sponsor of a composite plan shall adopt rules and  
12 procedures that give the parties to the collective bar-  
13 gaining agreement notice of the failure of such  
14 agreement to satisfy the transition contribution re-  
15 quirements of this subsection, and a reasonable op-  
16 portunity to correct such failure, not to exceed 180  
17 days from the date of notice given under subsection  
18 (b)(2).

19 “(e) TERMINATION OF COMPOSITE PLAN RESTRIC-  
20 TIONS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with the first  
22 day of the first plan year of a defined benefit plan  
23 that is a legacy plan with respect to which the plan  
24 actuary certifies that the plan is fully funded, has  
25 been fully funded for at least 3 out of the imme-

1 diately preceding 5 plan years, and is projected to  
2 remain fully funded for at least the following 4 plan  
3 years, the provisions of subsections (a), (b), and (c)  
4 shall cease to apply with respect to a collective bar-  
5 gaining agreement to the extent the agreement, or a  
6 predecessor agreement, provides or provided for con-  
7 tributions to such plan.

8 “(2) DETERMINATION OF FULLY FUNDED.—A  
9 plan is fully funded for purposes of paragraph (1)  
10 if, as of the valuation date of the plan for a plan  
11 year, the value of the plan’s assets equals or exceeds  
12 the present value of the plan’s liabilities, determined  
13 in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Pen-  
14 sion Benefit Guaranty Corporation under sections  
15 4219(c)(1)(D) and 4281 for multiemployer plans  
16 terminating by mass withdrawal, as in effect for the  
17 date of the determination.

18 “(3) OTHER APPLICABLE RULES.—Except as  
19 provided in paragraph (2), actuarial determinations  
20 and projections under this section shall be based on  
21 the rules in section 305(b)(3) and section 802(b).



1 **“SEC. 806. MERGERS AND ASSET TRANSFERS OF COM-**  
2 **POSITE PLANS.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Assets and liabilities of a com-  
4 posite plan may only be merged with, or transferred to,  
5 another plan if—

6 “(1) the plan or plans resulting from the merg-  
7 er or transfer is a composite plan;

8 “(2) no participant’s accrued benefit or adjust-  
9 able benefit is lower immediately after the trans-  
10 action than it was immediately before the trans-  
11 action; and

12 “(3) the value of the assets transferred in the  
13 case of a transfer reasonably reflects the value of the  
14 amounts contributed with respect to the participants  
15 whose benefits are being transferred, adjusted for al-  
16 locable distributions, investment gains and losses,  
17 and administrative expenses.

18 “(b) LEGACY PLAN.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—After the merger or trans-  
20 fer involving a composite plan, the legacy plan with  
21 respect to an employer that is obligated to con-  
22 tribute to the resulting composite plan is the legacy  
23 plan that applied to that employer immediately be-  
24 fore the merger or transfer.

25 “(2) MULTIPLE LEGACY PLANS.—If an em-  
26 ployer is obligated to contribute to more than one

1 legacy plan with respect to employees eligible to ac-  
2 crue benefits under more than one composite plan  
3 and there is a merger or transfer of such composite  
4 plans, such legacy plans continue to apply to that  
5 employer with respect to the composite plan result-  
6 ing from the merger or transfer.”.

7 (2) PENALTIES.—

8 (A) CIVIL ENFORCEMENT OF FAILURE TO  
9 COMPLY WITH REALIGNMENT PROGRAM.—Sec-  
10 tion 502(a) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1132(a)) is  
11 amended by adding at the end the following:

12 “(11) in the case of a composite plan required  
13 to adopt a realignment program under section 803,  
14 if the plan sponsor—

15 “(A) has not adopted a realignment pro-  
16 gram under that section by the deadline estab-  
17 lished in such section; or

18 “(B) fails to update or comply with the  
19 terms of the realignment program in accordance  
20 with the requirements of such section;

21 by the Secretary, by an employer that has an obliga-  
22 tion to contribute with respect to the composite plan,  
23 or by an employee organization that represents ac-  
24 tive participants in the composite plan, for an order  
25 compelling the plan sponsor to adopt a realignment

1 program, or to update or comply with the terms of  
2 the realignment program, in accordance with the re-  
3 quirements of such section and the realignment pro-  
4 gram.”.

5 (B) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Section 502(c) of  
6 such Act (29 U.S.C. 1132(c)) is amended—

7 (i) by moving paragraphs (8), (10),  
8 and (12) each 2 ems to the left;

9 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (9)  
10 through (12) as paragraphs (13) through  
11 (16), respectively; and

12 (iii) by inserting after paragraph (8)  
13 the following:

14 “(9) The Secretary may assess against any plan  
15 sponsor of a composite plan a civil penalty of not  
16 more than \$1,100 per day for each violation by such  
17 sponsor—

18 “(A) of the requirement under section  
19 802(a) on the plan actuary to certify the plan’s  
20 current or projected funded ratio by the date  
21 specified in such subsection; or

22 “(B) of the requirement under section 803  
23 to adopt a realignment program by the deadline  
24 established in that section and to comply with  
25 its terms.

1           “(10)(A) The Secretary may assess against any  
2           plan sponsor of a composite plan a civil penalty of  
3           not more than \$100 per day for each violation by  
4           such sponsor of the requirement under section  
5           803(b) to provide notice as described in such section,  
6           except that no penalty may be assessed in any case  
7           in which the plan sponsor exercised reasonable dili-  
8           gence to meet the requirements of such section  
9           and—

10                   “(i) the plan sponsor did not know that the  
11                   violation existed; or

12                   “(ii) the plan sponsor provided such notice  
13                   during the 30-day period beginning on the first  
14                   date on which the plan sponsor knew, or in ex-  
15                   ercising reasonable due diligence should have  
16                   known, that such violation existed.

17           “(B) In any case in which the plan sponsor ex-  
18           ercised reasonable diligence to meet the require-  
19           ments of section 803(b)—

20                   “(i) the total penalty assessed under this  
21                   paragraph against such sponsor for a plan year  
22                   may not exceed \$500,000; and

23                   “(ii) the Secretary may waive part or all of  
24                   such penalty to the extent that the payment of

1 such penalty would be excessive or otherwise in-  
2 equitable relative to the violation involved.

3 “(11) The Secretary may assess against any  
4 plan sponsor of a composite plan a civil penalty of  
5 not more than \$100 per day for each violation by  
6 such sponsor of the notice requirement under section  
7 805(b)(2).”.

8 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of  
9 contents in section 1 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1001  
10 note) is amended by inserting after the item relating  
11 to section 734 the following:

“PART 8—COMPOSITE PLANS AND LEGACY PLANS

“Sec. 801. Composite plan defined.

“Sec. 802. Funded ratios; actuarial assumptions.

“Sec. 803. Realignment programs.

“Sec. 804. Limitation on increasing benefits.

“Sec. 805. Composite plan restrictions to preserve legacy plan funding.

“Sec. 806. Mergers and asset transfers of composite plans.”.

12 (b) AMENDMENT TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE  
13 OF 1986.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter D of  
15 chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is  
16 amended by adding at the end the following:

17 **“Subpart C—Composite Plans and Legacy Plans**

“Sec. 437. Composite plan defined.

“Sec. 438. Funded ratios; actuarial assumptions.

“Sec. 439. Realignment program.

“Sec. 440. Limitation on increasing benefits.

“Sec. 440A. Composite plan restrictions to preserve legacy plan funding.

“Sec. 440B. Mergers and asset transfers of composite plans.

1 **“SEC. 437. COMPOSITE PLAN DEFINED.**

2 “(a) COMPOSITE PLAN DEFINED.—For purposes of  
3 this title, the term ‘composite plan’ means a pension  
4 plan—

5 “(1) which is a multiemployer plan that is nei-  
6 ther a defined benefit plan nor a defined contribu-  
7 tion plan;

8 “(2) the terms of which provide that the plan  
9 is a composite plan for purposes of this title with re-  
10 spect to which not more than one multiemployer de-  
11 fined benefit plan is treated as a legacy plan within  
12 the meaning of section 440A, unless there is more  
13 than one legacy plan following a merger of composite  
14 plans under section 440B;

15 “(3) which provides systematically for the pay-  
16 ment of benefits—

17 “(A) objectively calculated pursuant to a  
18 formula enumerated in the plan document with  
19 respect to plan participants after retirement,  
20 for life, and

21 “(B) in the form of life annuities, except  
22 for benefits which under section 411(a)(11)  
23 may be immediately distributed without the  
24 consent of the participant;

1           “(4) for which the plan contributions for the  
2 first plan year are at least 120 percent of the nor-  
3 mal cost for the plan year;

4           “(5) which requires—

5               “(A) an annual valuation of the liability of  
6 the plan as of a date within the plan year to  
7 which the valuation refers or within one month  
8 prior to the beginning of such year;

9               “(B) an annual actuarial determination of  
10 the plan’s current funded ratio and projected  
11 funded ratio under section 438(a); and

12               “(C) corrective action through a realign-  
13 ment program pursuant to section 439 when-  
14 ever the plan’s projected funding ratio is below  
15 120 percent for the plan year; and

16           “(6) the board of trustees of which includes at  
17 least one retiree or beneficiary in pay status during  
18 each plan year following the first plan year in which  
19 at least 5 percent of the participants in the plan are  
20 retirees or beneficiaries in pay status.

21           “(b) COMPOSITE PLAN FEATURE MAY BE ADDED TO  
22 A MULTIEMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN.—

23               “(1) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor of a de-  
24 fined benefit plan that is a multiemployer plan may  
25 amend the plan to incorporate the features of a com-

1       posite plan as a component of the multiemployer  
2       plan separate from the defined benefit plan compo-  
3       nent, except in the case of a defined benefit plan for  
4       which the plan actuary has certified under section  
5       432(b)(3) that the plan is or will be in critical status  
6       for the plan year in which such amendment would  
7       become effective or for any of the succeeding 5 plan  
8       years.

9               “(2) SPECIAL RULES.—If a multiemployer plan  
10       is amended pursuant to paragraph (1)—

11                       “(A) the requirements of this title shall be  
12                       applied to the composite plan component and  
13                       the defined benefit plan component of the mul-  
14                       tiemployer plan as if each such component were  
15                       maintained as a separate plan; and

16                       “(B) the assets of the composite plan com-  
17                       ponent and the defined benefit plan component  
18                       of the plan shall be held in a single trust form-  
19                       ing part of the plan under which the trust in-  
20                       strument expressly provides—

21                               “(i) for separate accounts (and appro-  
22                               priate records) to be maintained to reflect  
23                               the interest which each of the plan compo-  
24                               nents has in the trust, including separate  
25                               accounting for additions to the trust for



1 the benefit of each plan component, dis-  
2 bursements made from each plan compo-  
3 nent's account in the trust, investment ex-  
4 perience of the trust allocable to that ac-  
5 count, and administrative expenses (wheth-  
6 er direct expenses or shared expenses allo-  
7 cated proportionally), and permits, but  
8 does not require, the pooling of some or all  
9 of the assets of the two plan components  
10 for investment purposes; and

11 “(ii) that the assets of each of the two  
12 plan components shall be held, invested,  
13 reinvested, managed, administered and dis-  
14 tributed for the exclusive benefit of the  
15 participants and beneficiaries of each such  
16 plan component, and in no event shall the  
17 assets of one of the plan components be  
18 available to pay benefits due under the  
19 other plan component.

20 “(3) REFERENCES TO COMPOSITE PLAN COM-  
21 PONENT.—For purposes of this subpart, the term  
22 ‘composite plan’ includes a composite plan compo-  
23 nent added to a defined benefit plan pursuant to  
24 paragraph (1).

1 “(c) COORDINATION WITH FUNDING RULES.—Ex-  
2 cept as otherwise provided in this title, sections 431 and  
3 432 shall not apply to a composite plan.

4 “(d) TREATMENT OF A COMPOSITE PLAN.—For pur-  
5 poses of this title (other than sections 412 and 418E),  
6 a composite plan shall be treated as if it were a defined  
7 benefit plan unless a different treatment is provided for  
8 under applicable law.

9 **“SEC. 438. FUNDED RATIOS; ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS.**

10 “(a) CERTIFICATION OF FUNDED RATIOS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the 120th  
12 day of each plan year of a composite plan, the plan  
13 actuary of the composite plan shall certify to the  
14 Secretary, the Secretary of Labor, and the plan  
15 sponsor the plan’s current funded ratio and pro-  
16 jected funded ratio for the plan year.

17 “(2) DETERMINATION OF CURRENT FUNDED  
18 RATIO AND PROJECTED FUNDED RATIO.—For pur-  
19 poses of this section—

20 “(A) CURRENT FUNDED RATIO.—The cur-  
21 rent funded ratio is the ratio (expressed as a  
22 percentage) of—

23 “(i) the value of the plan’s assets as  
24 of the first day of the plan year, to

1                   “(ii) the plan actuary’s best estimate  
2                   of the present value of the plan liabilities  
3                   as of the first day of the plan year.

4                   “(B) PROJECTED FUNDED RATIO.—The  
5                   projected funded ratio is the current funded  
6                   ratio projected to the first day of the 15th plan  
7                   year following the plan year for which the de-  
8                   termination is being made.

9                   “(3) CONSIDERATION OF CONTRIBUTION RATE  
10                  INCREASES.—For purposes of projections under this  
11                  subsection, the plan sponsor may anticipate con-  
12                  tribution rate increases beyond the term of the cur-  
13                  rent collective bargaining agreement and any agreed-  
14                  to supplements, up to a maximum of 2.5 percent per  
15                  year, compounded annually, unless it would be un-  
16                  reasonable under the circumstances to assume that  
17                  contributions would increase by that amount.

18                  “(b) ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS.—  
19                  For purposes of this part—

20                  “(1) IN GENERAL.—All costs, liabilities, rates  
21                  of interest, and other factors under the plan shall be  
22                  determined for a plan year on the basis of actuarial  
23                  assumptions and methods—

1           “(A) each of which is reasonable (taking  
2           into account the experience of the plan and rea-  
3           sonable expectations);

4           “(B) which, in combination, offer the actu-  
5           ary’s best estimate of anticipated experience  
6           under the plan; and

7           “(C) with respect to which any change  
8           from the actuarial assumptions and methods  
9           used in the previous plan year shall be certified  
10          by the plan actuary and the actuarial rationale  
11          for such change provided in the annual report  
12          required by section 6058.

13          “(2) FAIR MARKET VALUE OF ASSETS.—The  
14          value of the plan’s assets shall be taken into account  
15          on the basis of their fair market value.

16          “(3) DETERMINATION OF NORMAL COST AND  
17          PLAN LIABILITIES.—A plan’s normal cost and liabil-  
18          ities shall be based on the most recent actuarial  
19          valuation required under section 437(a)(5)(A) and  
20          the unit credit funding method.

21          “(4) TIME WHEN CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS  
22          DEEMED MADE.—Any contributions for a plan year  
23          made by an employer after the last day of such plan  
24          year, but not later than two and one-half months  
25          after such day, shall be deemed to have been made

1 on such last day. For purposes of this paragraph,  
2 such two and one-half month period may be ex-  
3 tended for not more than six months under regula-  
4 tions prescribed by the Secretary.

5 “(5) ADDITIONAL ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS.—  
6 Except where otherwise provided in this subpart, the  
7 provisions of section 432(b)(3)(B) shall apply to any  
8 determination or projection under this subpart.

9 **“SEC. 439. REALIGNMENT PROGRAM.**

10 “(a) ADOPTION.—

11 “(1) ADOPTION.—In any case in which the plan  
12 actuary certifies under section 438 that the plan’s  
13 projected funded ratio is below 120 percent for the  
14 plan year, the plan sponsor shall adopt a realign-  
15 ment program under paragraph (2) not later than  
16 210 days after the due date of the certification re-  
17 quired under section 438(a)(1). The plan sponsor  
18 shall adopt an updated realignment program for  
19 each succeeding plan year for which a certification  
20 described in the preceding sentence is made.

21 “(2) CONTENT OF REALIGNMENT PROGRAM.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A realignment pro-  
23 gram adopted under this paragraph is a written  
24 program which consists of all reasonable meas-  
25 ures, including options or a range of options to

1 be undertaken by the plan sponsor or proposed  
2 to the bargaining parties, formulated, based on  
3 reasonably anticipated experience and reason-  
4 able actuarial assumptions, to enable the plan  
5 to achieve a projected funding ratio of at least  
6 120 percent for the following plan year.

7 “(B) INITIAL PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Rea-  
8 sonable measures under a realignment program  
9 described in subparagraph (A) may include any  
10 of the following:

11 “(i) Proposed contribution increases.

12 “(ii) A reduction in the rate of future  
13 benefit accruals, so long as the resulting  
14 rate shall not be less than 1 percent of the  
15 contributions on which benefits are based  
16 as of the start of the plan year (or the  
17 equivalent standard accrual rate as de-  
18 scribed in section 432(e)(6)).

19 “(iii) A modification or elimination of  
20 adjustable benefits of participants that are  
21 not in pay status before the date of the no-  
22 tice required under subsection (c).

23 “(iv) Any other legally available meas-  
24 ures not specifically described in this sub-  
25 paragraph or subparagraph (C) or (D)

1           that the plan sponsor determines are rea-  
2           sonable.

3           “(C) ADDITIONAL PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—

4           If the plan sponsor has determined that all rea-  
5           sonable measures available under subparagraph  
6           (B) will not enable the plan to achieve a pro-  
7           jected funded ratio of at least 120 percent the  
8           following plan year, such reasonable measures  
9           may also include—

10           “(i) a reduction of accrued benefits  
11           that are not in pay status by the date of  
12           the notice required under subsection (c); or

13           “(ii) a reduction of any benefits of  
14           participants that are in pay status before  
15           the date of the notice required under sub-  
16           section (c) other than core benefits as de-  
17           fined in paragraph (4).

18           “(D) ADDITIONAL REDUCTIONS.—In the  
19           case of a composite plan for which the plan  
20           sponsor has determined that all reasonable  
21           measures available under subparagraphs (B)  
22           and (C) will not enable the plan to achieve a  
23           projected funded ratio of at least 120 percent  
24           for the following plan year, such reasonable  
25           measures may also include—

1                   “(i) a further reduction in the rate of  
2                   future benefit accruals without regard to  
3                   the limitation applicable under subpara-  
4                   graph (B)(ii); or

5                   “(ii) a reduction of core benefits,  
6                   provided that such reductions shall be equitably  
7                   distributed across the participant and bene-  
8                   ficiary population, taking into account factors,  
9                   with respect to participants and beneficiaries  
10                  and their benefits, that may include one or  
11                  more of the factors listed in subclauses (I)  
12                  through (X) of section 432(e)(9)(D)(vi), to the  
13                  extent necessary to enable the plan to achieve  
14                  a projected funded ratio of at least 120 percent  
15                  for the following plan year, or at the election of  
16                  the plan sponsor, a projected funded ratio of at  
17                  least 100 percent for the following plan year  
18                  and a current funded ratio of at least 90 per-  
19                  cent.

20                  “(3) ADJUSTABLE BENEFIT DEFINED.—For  
21                  purposes of this subpart, the term ‘adjustable ben-  
22                  efit’ means—

23                         “(A) benefits, rights, and features under  
24                         the plan, including post-retirement death bene-



1 fits, 60-month guarantees, disability benefits  
2 not yet in pay status, and similar benefits;

3 “(B) any early retirement benefit or retire-  
4 ment-type subsidy (within the meaning of sec-  
5 tion 411(d)(6)(B)(i)) and any benefit payment  
6 option (other than the qualified joint and sur-  
7 vivor annuity); and

8 “(C) benefit increases that were adopted  
9 (or, if later, took effect) less than 60 months  
10 before the first day such realignment program  
11 took effect.

12 “(4) CORE BENEFIT DEFINED.—For purposes  
13 of this subpart, the term ‘core benefit’ means a par-  
14 ticipant’s accrued benefit payable in the normal form  
15 of an annuity commencing at normal retirement age,  
16 determined without regard to—

17 “(A) any early retirement benefits, retire-  
18 ment-type subsidies, or other benefits, rights, or  
19 features that may be associated with that ben-  
20 efit; and

21 “(B) any cost-of-living adjustments or ben-  
22 efit increases effective after the date of retire-  
23 ment.

24 “(b) COORDINATION WITH CONTRIBUTION IN-  
25 CREASES.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—A realignment program  
2           may provide that some or all of the benefit modifica-  
3           tions described in the program will only take effect  
4           if the bargaining parties fail to agree to specified  
5           levels of increases in contributions to the plan, effec-  
6           tive as of specified dates.

7           “(2) INDEPENDENT BENEFIT MODIFICA-  
8           TIONS.—If a realignment program adopts any  
9           changes to the benefit formula that are independent  
10          of potential contribution increases, such changes  
11          shall take effect not later than the first day of the  
12          first plan year that begins following the adoption of  
13          the realignment program.

14          “(3) CONDITIONAL BENEFIT MODIFICATIONS.—  
15          If a realignment program adopts any changes to the  
16          benefit formula that take effect only if the bar-  
17          gaining parties fail to agree to contribution in-  
18          creases, such changes shall take effect not later than  
19          the first day of the first plan year beginning after  
20          the third anniversary of the date of adoption of the  
21          realignment program.

22          “(4) REVOCATION OF CERTAIN BENEFIT MODI-  
23          FICATIONS.—Benefit modifications described in  
24          paragraph (3) may be revoked, in whole or in part,  
25          and retroactively or prospectively, when contribu-

1        tions to the plan are increased, as specified in the  
2        realignment program, including any amendments  
3        thereto. The preceding sentence shall not apply un-  
4        less the contribution increases are to be effective not  
5        later than the fifth anniversary of the first day of  
6        the first plan year that begins after the adoption of  
7        the realignment program.

8        “(c) NOTICE.—

9            “(1) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which it is  
10        certified under section 438 that the projected funded  
11        ratio is less than 120 percent, the plan sponsor  
12        shall, not later than 30 days after the date of the  
13        certification, provide notification of the current and  
14        projected funded ratios to the participants and bene-  
15        ficiaries, the bargaining parties, and the Secretary.  
16        Such notice shall include—

17            “(A) an explanation that contribution rate  
18        increases or benefit reductions may be nec-  
19        essary;

20            “(B) a description of the types of benefits  
21        that might be reduced; and

22            “(C) an estimate of the contribution in-  
23        creases and benefit reductions that may be nec-  
24        essary to achieve a projected funded ratio of  
25        120 percent.

1           “(2) NOTICE OF BENEFIT MODIFICATIONS.—

2                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—No modifications may  
3 be made that reduce the rate of future benefit  
4 accrual or that reduce core benefits or adjust-  
5 able benefits unless notice of such reduction has  
6 been given at least 30 days before the general  
7 effective date of such reduction for all partici-  
8 pants and beneficiaries to—

9                           “(i) plan participants and bene-  
10 ficiaries;

11                           “(ii) each employer who has an obliga-  
12 tion to contribute to the composite plan;  
13 and

14                           “(iii) each employee organization  
15 which, for purposes of collective bar-  
16 gaining, represents plan participants em-  
17 ployed by such employers.

18           “(B) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—The notice  
19 under subparagraph (A) shall contain—

20                           “(i) sufficient information to enable  
21 participants and beneficiaries to under-  
22 stand the effect of any reduction on their  
23 benefits, including an illustration of any  
24 affected benefit or subsidy, on an annual  
25 or monthly basis that a participant or ben-

1           eficiary would otherwise have been eligible  
2           for as of the general effective date de-  
3           scribed in subparagraph (A), and

4           “(ii) information as to the rights and  
5           remedies of plan participants and bene-  
6           ficiaries as well as how to contact the De-  
7           partment of Labor for further information  
8           and assistance, where appropriate.

9           “(C) FORM AND MANNER.—Any notice  
10          under subparagraph (A)—

11          “(i) shall be provided in a form and  
12          manner prescribed in regulations of the  
13          Secretary of Labor,

14          “(ii) shall be written in a manner so  
15          as to be understood by the average plan  
16          participant.

17          “(3) MODEL NOTICES.—The Secretary shall—

18          “(A) prescribe model notices that the plan  
19          sponsor of a composite plan may use to satisfy  
20          the notice requirements under this subsection;  
21          and

22          “(B) by regulation enumerate any details  
23          related to the elements listed in paragraph (1)  
24          that any notice under this subsection must in-  
25          clude.

1           “(4) ELECTRONIC DELIVERY.—The Secretary  
2 of Labor shall by regulation permit any notice under  
3 this part to be provided by electronic means, so long  
4 as physical copies are provided to participants and  
5 beneficiaries upon request.

6 **“SEC. 440. LIMITATION ON INCREASING BENEFITS.**

7           “(a) LEVEL OF CURRENT FUNDED RATIOS.—Except  
8 as provided in subsections (c), (d), and (e), no plan  
9 amendment increasing benefits or establishing new bene-  
10 fits under a composite plan may be adopted for a plan  
11 year unless—

12           “(1) the plan’s current funded ratio is at least  
13 110 percent (without regard to the benefit increase  
14 or new benefits);

15           “(2) taking the benefit increase or new benefits  
16 into account, the current funded ratio is at least 100  
17 percent and the projected funded ratio for the cur-  
18 rent plan year is at least 120 percent;

19           “(3) in any case in which, after taking the ben-  
20 efit increase or new benefits into account, the cur-  
21 rent funded ratio is less than 140 percent or the  
22 projected funded ratio is less than 140 percent, the  
23 benefit increase or new benefits are projected by the  
24 plan actuary to increase the present value of the

1 plan's liabilities for the plan year by not more than  
2 3 percent; and

3 “(4) expected contributions for the current plan  
4 year are at least 120 percent of normal cost for the  
5 plan year, determined using the unit credit funding  
6 method and treating the benefit increase or new ben-  
7 efits as in effect for the entire plan year.

8 “(b) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS WHERE CORE**  
9 **BENEFITS REDUCED.**—If a plan has been amended to re-  
10 duce core benefits pursuant to a realignment program  
11 under section 439(a)(2)(D), such plan may not be subse-  
12 quently amended to increase core benefits unless the  
13 amendment—

14 “(1) increases the level of future benefit pay-  
15 ments only; and

16 “(2) provides for an equitable distribution of  
17 benefit increases across the participant and bene-  
18 ficiary population, taking into account the extent to  
19 which the benefits of participants were previously re-  
20 duced pursuant to such realignment program.

21 “(c) **EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE**  
22 **LAW.**—Subsection (a) shall not apply in connection with  
23 a plan amendment if the amendment is required as a con-  
24 dition of qualification under part I of subchapter D of  
25 chapter 1 or to comply with other applicable law.

1       “(d) EXCEPTION WHERE MAXIMUM DEDUCTIBLE  
2 LIMIT APPLIES.—Subsection (a) shall not apply in con-  
3 nection with a plan amendment if and to the extent that  
4 contributions to the composite plan would not be deduct-  
5 ible for the plan year under section 404(a)(1)(E) if the  
6 plan amendment is not adopted. The Secretary of the  
7 Treasury shall issue regulations to implement this para-  
8 graph.

9       “(e) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN BENEFIT MODIFICA-  
10 TIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply in connection with  
11 a plan amendment under section 439(b)(3), regarding  
12 conditional benefit modifications.

13       “(f) TREATMENT OF PLAN AMENDMENTS.—For pur-  
14 poses of this section—

15           “(1) if 2 or more plan amendments increasing  
16 benefits or establishing new benefits are adopted in  
17 a plan year, such amendments shall be treated as a  
18 single amendment adopted on the last day of the  
19 plan year;

20           “(2) all benefit increases and new benefits  
21 adopted in a single amendment are treated as a sin-  
22 gle benefit increase, irrespective of whether the in-  
23 creases and new benefits take effect in more than  
24 one plan year; and



1           “(3) increases in contributions or decreases in  
2           plan liabilities which are scheduled to take effect in  
3           future plan years may be taken into account in con-  
4           nection with a plan amendment if they have been  
5           agreed to in writing or otherwise formalized by the  
6           date the plan amendment is adopted.

7   **“SEC. 440A. COMPOSITE PLAN RESTRICTIONS TO PRE-**  
8           **SERVE LEGACY PLAN FUNDING.**

9           “(a) TREATMENT AS A LEGACY PLAN.—

10           “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sub-  
11           chapter, a defined benefit plan shall be treated as a  
12           legacy plan with respect to a composite plan to the  
13           extent to which a class of employees who were eligi-  
14           ble to accrue a benefit under the defined benefit plan  
15           become eligible to accrue a benefit under such com-  
16           posite plan.

17           “(2) COMPONENT PLANS.—In any case in  
18           which a defined benefit plan is amended to add a  
19           composite plan component pursuant to section  
20           437(b), paragraph (1) shall be applied by sub-  
21           stituting ‘defined benefit component’ for ‘defined  
22           benefit plan’ and ‘composite plan component’ for  
23           ‘composite plan’.

24           “(3) ELIGIBLE TO ACCRUE A BENEFIT.—For  
25           purposes of paragraph (1), an employee is consid-

1       ered eligible to accrue a benefit under a composite  
2       plan as of the first day of the month following the  
3       first month in which the employee completes an hour  
4       of service under a collective bargaining agreement  
5       that provides for contributions to the composite plan  
6       and eliminates accruals in the legacy plan.

7               “(4) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.—  
8       As used in this subpart, the term ‘collective bar-  
9       gaining agreement’ includes any agreement under  
10      which an employer has an obligation to contribute to  
11      a plan.

12              “(5) OTHER TERMS.—Any term used in this  
13      subpart which is not defined in this part and which  
14      is also used in section 432 shall have the same  
15      meaning provided such term in such section.

16              “(b) RESTRICTIONS ON ACCEPTANCE BY COMPOSITE  
17      PLAN OF AGREEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS.—

18              “(1) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor of a com-  
19      posite plan shall not accept or recognize a collective  
20      bargaining agreement (or any modification so such  
21      agreement), and no contributions may be accepted  
22      and no benefits may be accrued or otherwise earned  
23      under the agreement, unless the agreement requires  
24      each employer who is a party to such agreement to  
25      provide contributions to the legacy plan with respect

1 to such composite plan in a manner that satisfies  
2 the transition contribution requirements of sub-  
3 section (d).

4 “(2) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after a  
5 determination by a plan sponsor of a composite plan  
6 that an agreement fails to satisfy the requirements  
7 described in paragraph (1), the plan sponsor shall  
8 provide notification of such failure and the reasons  
9 for such determination to—

10 “(A) the parties to the agreement;

11 “(B) active participants of the composite  
12 plan who have ceased to accrue or otherwise  
13 earn benefits with respect to service with an  
14 employer pursuant to paragraph (1); and

15 “(C) the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary  
16 of the Treasury, and the Pension Benefit Guar-  
17 anty Corporation.

18 “(3) LIMITATION ON RETROACTIVE EFFECT.—  
19 This subsection shall not apply to benefits accrued  
20 before the date on which notice is provided under  
21 paragraph (2).

22 “(c) RESTRICTION ON ACCRUAL OF BENEFITS  
23 UNDER A COMPOSITE PLAN.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which an  
25 employer, under a collective bargaining agreement

1 entered into after the date of the enactment of the  
2 Multiemployer Pension Modernization Act of 2016,  
3 ceases to have an obligation to contribute to a multi-  
4 employer defined benefit plan for one or more class-  
5 es of employees, no such class of employees em-  
6 ployed by the employer may accrue or otherwise earn  
7 benefits under a composite plan, with respect to  
8 service with that employer, for a 60-month period  
9 beginning on the date on which the employer entered  
10 into such collective bargaining agreement.

11 “(2) NOTICE OF CESSATION OF OBLIGATION.—  
12 Within 30 days of determining that an employer has  
13 ceased to have an obligation to contribute to a leg-  
14 acy plan with respect to one or more classes of em-  
15 ployees employed by an employer that is or will be  
16 contributing to a composite plan with respect to  
17 service of such employees, the plan sponsor of the  
18 legacy plan shall notify the plan sponsor of the com-  
19 posite plan of that cessation.

20 “(3) NOTICE OF CESSATION OF ACCRUALS.—  
21 Not later than 30 days after receiving a notice under  
22 paragraph (2) and determining the accuracy of the  
23 information, the plan sponsor of the composite plan  
24 shall notify the bargaining parties, the active partici-  
25 pants affected by the cessation of accruals, the Sec-

1       retary, the Secretary of Labor, and the Pension  
2       Benefit Guaranty Corporation of the cessation of ac-  
3       cruals, the period during which such cessation is in  
4       effect, and the reasons therefor.

5               “(4) LIMITATION ON RETROACTIVE EFFECT.—

6       This subsection shall not apply to benefits accrued  
7       before the date on which notice is provided under  
8       paragraph (3).

9               “(d) TRANSITION CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.—

10              “(1) IN GENERAL.—A collective bargaining  
11       agreement satisfies the transition contribution re-  
12       quirements of this subsection if the agreement—

13              “(A) authorizes for payment of contribu-  
14       tions to a legacy plan at a rate or rates equal  
15       to or greater than the transition contribution  
16       rate established under paragraph (2); and

17              “(B) does not provide for—

18              “(i) a suspension of contributions to  
19       the legacy plan with respect to any period  
20       of service; or

21              “(ii) any new direct or indirect exclu-  
22       sion of younger or newly hired employees  
23       of the employer from being taken into ac-  
24       count in determining contributions owed to  
25       the legacy plan.

1           “(2) TRANSITION CONTRIBUTION RATE.—

2           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The transition con-  
3           tribution rate for a plan year is the contribution  
4           rate that, as certified by the actuary of the leg-  
5           acy plan, in accordance with the principles in  
6           section 432(b)(3)(B) is reasonably expected to  
7           be adequate—

8                   “(i) to fund the normal cost for the  
9                   plan year,

10                   “(ii) to amortize the plan’s unfunded  
11                   liabilities in level annual installments over  
12                   25 years, beginning with the plan year in  
13                   which the transition contribution rate is  
14                   first established; and

15                   “(iii) to amortize any subsequent  
16                   changes in the legacy plan’s unfunded li-  
17                   ability due to experience gains or losses,  
18                   changes in actuarial assumptions, changes  
19                   to the legacy plan’s benefits, or changes in  
20                   funding method over a period of 15 plan  
21                   years beginning with the plan year in  
22                   which such change in unfunded liability is  
23                   incurred.

24           The transition contribution rate for any plan  
25           year may not be less than the transition con-

1           tribution rate for the plan year in which such  
2           rate is first established.

3           “(B) MULTIPLE RATES.—If different rates  
4           of contribution are payable to the legacy plan  
5           by different employers or for different classes of  
6           employees, the certification shall specify a tran-  
7           sition contribution rate for each such employer  
8           or class of employees.

9           “(C) RATE APPLICABLE TO EMPLOYER.—

10           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-  
11           vided by clause (ii), the transition con-  
12           tribution rate applicable to an employer for  
13           a plan year is the rate in effect for the  
14           plan year of the legacy plan that com-  
15           mences on or after 180 days before the  
16           earlier of—

17           “(I) the effective date of the col-  
18           lective bargaining agreement pursuant  
19           to which the employer contributes to  
20           the legacy plan; or

21           “(II) 5 years after the last plan  
22           year for which the transition contribu-  
23           tion rate applicable to the employer  
24           was established or updated.

1                   “(ii) EXCEPTION.—The transition  
2                   contribution rate applicable to an employer  
3                   for the first plan year beginning on or  
4                   after the commencement of the employer’s  
5                   obligation to contribute to the composite  
6                   plan is the rate in effect for the plan year  
7                   of the legacy plan that commences on or  
8                   after 180 days before such first plan year.

9                   “(D) EFFECT OF LEGACY PLAN FINANCIAL  
10                  CIRCUMSTANCES.—If the plan actuary of the  
11                  legacy plan has certified under section 432 that  
12                  the plan is in endangered or critical status for  
13                  a plan year, the transition contribution rate for  
14                  the following plan year is the rate determined  
15                  with respect to the employer under the legacy  
16                  plan’s funding improvement or rehabilitation  
17                  plan under section 432, if greater than the rate  
18                  otherwise determined, but in no event greater  
19                  than 75 percent of the sum of the contribution  
20                  rates applicable to the legacy plan and the com-  
21                  posite plan for the plan year.

22                  “(E) OTHER ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS  
23                  AND METHODS.—Except as provided in sub-  
24                  paragraph (A), the determination of the transi-  
25                  tion contribution rate for a plan year shall be



1 based on actuarial assumptions and methods  
2 consistent with the minimum funding deter-  
3 minations made under section 431 (or, if appli-  
4 cable, section 432) with respect to the legacy  
5 plan for the plan year.

6 “(F) ADJUSTMENTS IN RATE.—The plan  
7 sponsor of a legacy plan from time to time may  
8 adjust the transition contribution rate or rates  
9 applicable to an employer under this paragraph  
10 by increasing some rates and decreasing others  
11 if the actuary certifies that such adjusted rates  
12 in combination will produce projected contribu-  
13 tion income for the plan year beginning on or  
14 after the date of certification that is not less  
15 than would be produced by the transition con-  
16 tribution rates in effect at the time of the cer-  
17 tification.

18 “(G) NOTICE OF TRANSITION CONTRIBU-  
19 TION RATE.—The plan sponsor of a legacy plan  
20 shall provide notice to the parties to collective  
21 bargaining agreements pursuant to which con-  
22 tributions are made to the legacy plan of  
23 changes to the transition contribution rate re-  
24 quirements at least 30 days before the begin-

1           ning of the plan year for which the rate is effec-  
2           tive.

3           “(H) NOTICE TO COMPOSITE PLAN SPON-  
4           SOR.—Not later than 30 days after a deter-  
5           mination by the plan sponsor of a legacy plan  
6           that a collective bargaining agreement provides  
7           for a rate of contributions that is below the  
8           transition contribution rate applicable to one or  
9           more employers that are parties to the collective  
10          bargaining agreement, the plan sponsor of the  
11          legacy plan shall notify the plan sponsor of any  
12          composite plan under which employees of such  
13          employer would otherwise be eligible to accrue  
14          a benefit.

15          “(3) CORRECTION PROCEDURES.—Pursuant to  
16          standards prescribed by the Secretary of Labor, the  
17          plan sponsor of a composite plan shall adopt rules  
18          and procedures that give the parties to the collective  
19          bargaining agreement notice of the failure of such  
20          agreement to satisfy the transition contribution re-  
21          quirements of this subsection, and a reasonable op-  
22          portunity to correct such failure, not to exceed 180  
23          days from the date of notice given under subsection  
24          (b)(2).

1           “(e) TERMINATION OF COMPOSITE PLAN RESTRIC-  
2 TIONS.—

3           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with the first  
4 day of the first plan year of a defined benefit plan  
5 that is a legacy plan with respect to which the plan  
6 actuary certifies that the plan is fully funded, has  
7 been fully funded for at least 3 out of the imme-  
8 diately preceding 5 plan years, and is projected to  
9 remain fully funded for at least the following 4 plan  
10 years the provisions of subsections (a), (b), and (c)  
11 shall cease to apply with respect to a collective bar-  
12 gaining agreement to the extent the agreement, or a  
13 predecessor agreement, provides or provided for con-  
14 tributions to such plan.

15           “(2) DETERMINATION OF FULLY FUNDED.—A  
16 plan is fully funded for purposes of paragraph (1)  
17 if, as of the valuation date of the plan for a plan  
18 year, the value of the plan’s assets equals or exceeds  
19 the present value of the plan’s liabilities, determined  
20 in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Pen-  
21 sion Benefit Guaranty Corporation under sections  
22 4219(e)(1)(D) and 4281 of Employee Retirement  
23 Income and Security Act for multiemployer plans  
24 terminating by mass withdrawal, as in effect for the  
25 date of the determination.

1           “(3) OTHER APPLICABLE RULES.—Except as  
2           provided in paragraph (2), actuarial determinations  
3           and projections under this section shall be based on  
4           the rules in section 432(b)(3) and section 440A(b).

5 **“SEC. 440B. MERGERS AND ASSET TRANSFERS OF COM-**  
6 **POSITE PLANS.**

7           “(a) IN GENERAL.—Assets and liabilities of a com-  
8           posite plan may only be merged with, or transferred to,  
9           another plan if—

10           “(1) the plan or plans resulting from the merg-  
11           er or transfer is a composite plan;

12           “(2) no participant’s accrued benefit or adjust-  
13           able benefit is lower immediately after the trans-  
14           action than it was immediately before the trans-  
15           action; and

16           “(3) the value of the assets transferred in the  
17           case of a transfer reasonably reflects the value of the  
18           amounts contributed with respect to the participants  
19           whose benefits are being transferred, adjusted for al-  
20           locable distributions, investment gains and losses,  
21           and administrative expenses.

22           “(b) LEGACY PLAN.—

23           “(1) IN GENERAL.—After the merger or trans-  
24           fer involving a composite plan, the legacy plan with  
25           respect to an employer that is obligated to con-

1       tribute to the resulting composite plan is the legacy  
2       plan that applied to that employer immediately be-  
3       fore the merger or transfer.

4               “(2) MULTIPLE LEGACY PLANS.—If an em-  
5       ployer is obligated to contribute to more than one  
6       legacy plan with respect to employees eligible to ac-  
7       cruce benefits under more than one composite plan  
8       and there is a merger or transfer of such composite  
9       plans, such legacy plans continue to apply to that  
10      employer with respect to the composite plan result-  
11      ing from the merger or transfer.”.

12              (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sub-  
13      parts for part III of subchapter D of chapter 1 of  
14      the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by  
15      adding at the end the following new item:

                  “SUBPART C. COMPOSITE PLANS AND LEGACY PLANS.”.

16              (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
17      this section shall apply to plan years beginning after the  
18      date of the enactment of this Act.

19      **SEC. 3. APPLICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS TO**  
20                      **COMPOSITE PLANS.**

21              (a) AMENDMENTS TO THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT  
22      INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

23                      (1) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF FUNDING  
24      NOTICES.—Section 101(f) of the Employee Retire-

1        ment Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C.  
2        1021(f)) is amended—

3                (A) in paragraph (1) by striking “title IV  
4                applies” and inserting “title IV applies or which  
5                is a composite plan”, and

6                (B) by adding at the end the following:

7                “(5) APPLICATION TO COMPOSITE PLANS.—The  
8                provisions of this subsection shall apply to a com-  
9                posite plan only to the extent prescribed by the Sec-  
10              retary in regulations that take into account the dif-  
11              ferences between a composite plan and a defined  
12              benefit plan that is a multiemployer plan.”.

13              (2) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF ANNUAL  
14              REPORT.—Section 103 of the Employee Retirement  
15              Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1023) is  
16              amended—

17              (A) in subsection (d) by adding at the end  
18              the following sentence: “The provisions of this  
19              subsection shall apply to a composite plan only  
20              to the extent prescribed by the Secretary in reg-  
21              ulations that take into account the differences  
22              between a composite plan and a defined benefit  
23              plan that is a multiemployer plan.”.

24              (B) in subsection (f) by adding at the end  
25              the following:

1           “(3) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR COM-  
2       POSITE PLANS.—With respect to any composite  
3       plan—

4           “(A) the provisions of paragraph (1)(A)  
5       shall apply by substituting ‘current funded ratio  
6       (as defined in section 802(a)(2)(A))’ for ‘fund-  
7       ed percentage’ each place it appears, and

8           “(B) the provisions of paragraph (2) shall  
9       apply only to the extent prescribed by the Sec-  
10      retary in regulations that take into account the  
11      differences between a composite plan and a de-  
12      fined benefit plan that is a multiemployer  
13      plan.”; and

14           (C) by adding at the end the following:

15      “(g) COMPOSITE PLANS.—A multiemployer plan that  
16      incorporates the features of a composite plan as provided  
17      in section 801(b) shall be treated as a single plan for pur-  
18      poses of the report required by this section, except that  
19      separate financial statements and actuarial statements  
20      shall be provided under paragraphs (3) and (4) of sub-  
21      section (a) for the defined benefit plan component and for  
22      the composite plan component of the multiemployer  
23      plan.”.

24           (3) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF PENSION  
25      BENEFIT STATEMENTS.—Section 105(a) of the Em-

1        ployee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29  
2        U.S.C. 1025(a)) is amended by adding at the end  
3        the following:

4            “(4) COMPOSITE PLANS.—For purposes of this  
5        subsection, a composite plan shall be treated as a  
6        defined benefit plan to the extent prescribed by the  
7        Secretary in regulations that take into account the  
8        differences between a composite plan and a defined  
9        benefit plan that is a multiemployer plan.”.

10        (b) AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE  
11        CODE OF 1986.—Section 6058 of the Internal Revenue  
12        Code of 1986 is amended by redesignating subsection (f)  
13        as subsection (g) and by inserting after subsection (e) the  
14        following:

15            “(f) COMPOSITE PLANS.—A multiemployer plan that  
16        incorporates the features of a composite plan as provided  
17        in section 437(b) shall be treated as a single plan for pur-  
18        poses of the return required by this section, except that  
19        separate financial statements shall be provided for the de-  
20        fined benefit plan component and for the composite plan  
21        component of the multiemployer plan.”.

22        (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
23        this section shall apply to plan years beginning after the  
24        date of the enactment of this Act.



1 **SEC. 4. TREATMENT OF COMPOSITE PLANS UNDER TITLE**

2 **IV.**

3 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 4001(a) of the Employee  
4 Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C.  
5 1301(a)) is amended by striking the period at the end of  
6 paragraph (21) and inserting a semicolon and by adding  
7 at the end the following:

8 “(22) COMPOSITE PLAN.—The term ‘composite  
9 plan’ has the meaning set forth in section 801.”.

10 (b) COMPOSITE PLANS DISREGARDED FOR CALCU-  
11 LATING PREMIUMS.—Section 4006(a) of such Act (29  
12 U.S.C. 1306(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(9) The composite plan component of a multi-  
15 employer plan shall be disregarded in determining  
16 the premiums due under this section from the multi-  
17 employer plan.”.

18 (c) COMPOSITE PLANS NOT COVERED.—Section  
19 4021(b)(1) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1321(b)(1)) is amend-  
20 ed by striking “Act” and inserting “Act, or a composite  
21 plan, as defined in paragraph (43) of section 3 of this  
22 Act”.

23 (d) NO WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY.—Section 4201 of  
24 such Act (29 U.S.C. 1381) is amended by adding at the  
25 end the following:

1 “(c) Contributions by an employer to the composite  
2 plan component of a multiemployer plan shall not be taken  
3 into account for any purpose under this title.”

4 (e) NO WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN  
5 PLANS.—Section 4201 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1381) is  
6 further amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(d) Contributions by an employer to a multiem-  
8 ployer plan described in the except clause of section 3(35)  
9 of this Act pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement  
10 that specifically designates that such contributions shall  
11 be allocated to the separate defined contribution accounts  
12 of participants under the plan shall not be taken into ac-  
13 count with respect to the defined benefit portion of the  
14 plan for any purpose under this title (including the deter-  
15 mination of the employer’s highest contribution rate under  
16 section 4219), even if, under the terms of the plan, partici-  
17 pants have the option to transfer assets in their separate  
18 defined contribution accounts to the defined benefit por-  
19 tion of the plan in return for service credit under the de-  
20 fined benefit portion, at rates established by the plan  
21 sponsor.

22 “(e) A legacy plan created under section 805 shall  
23 be deemed to have no unfunded vested benefits for pur-  
24 poses of this part, for all plan years following a period  
25 of 5 consecutive plan years for which—

1           “(1) the plan was fully funded within the mean-  
2           ing of section 805 for at least 3 of the plan years  
3           during that period, ending with a plan year for  
4           which the plan is fully funded;

5           “(2) the plan had no unfunded vested benefits  
6           for at least 3 of the plan years during that period,  
7           ending with a plan year for which the plan is fully  
8           funded; and

9           “(3) the plan is projected to be fully funded  
10          and to have no unfunded vested benefits for the fol-  
11          lowing four plan years.”.

12          (f) NO WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY FOR EMPLOYERS  
13          CONTRIBUTING TO CERTAIN FULLY FUNDED LEGACY  
14          PLANS.—Section 4211 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1382) is  
15          amended by adding at the end the following:

16          “(g) No amount of unfunded vested benefits shall be  
17          allocated to an employer that has an obligation to con-  
18          tribute to a legacy plan described in subsection (e) of sec-  
19          tion 4201.”.

20          (g) NO OBLIGATION TO CONTRIBUTE.—Section 4212  
21          of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1392) is amended by adding at  
22          the end the following:

23          “(d) NO OBLIGATION TO CONTRIBUTE.—An em-  
24          ployer shall not be treated as having an obligation to con-

1 tribute to a multiemployer defined benefit plan within the  
2 meaning of subsection (a) solely because—

3 “(1) in the case of a multiemployer plan that  
4 includes a composite plan component, the employer  
5 has an obligation to contribute to the composite plan  
6 component of the plan;

7 “(2) the employer has an obligation to con-  
8 tribute to a composite plan that is maintained pur-  
9 suant to one or more collective bargaining agree-  
10 ments under which the multiemployer defined ben-  
11 efit plan is or previously was maintained; or

12 “(3) the employer contributes or has contrib-  
13 uted under section 805(d) to a legacy plan associ-  
14 ated with a composite plan pursuant to a collective  
15 bargaining agreement but employees of that em-  
16 ployer were not eligible to accrue benefits under the  
17 legacy plan with respect to service with that em-  
18 ployer.”.

19 (h) NO INFERENCE.—Nothing in the amendment  
20 made by subsection (e) shall be construed to create an in-  
21 ference with respect to the treatment under title IV of the  
22 Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as in  
23 effect before such amendment, of contributions by an em-  
24 ployer to a multiemployer plan described in the except  
25 clause of section 3(35) of such Act that are made before

1 the effective date of subsection (e) specified in subsection  
2 (h)(2).

3 (i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-  
5 paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section  
6 shall apply to plan years beginning after the date of  
7 the enactment of this Act.

8 (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR SECTION 414(K) MULTI-  
9 EMPLOYER PLANS.—The amendment made by sub-  
10 section (e) shall apply only to required contributions  
11 payable for plan years beginning after the date of  
12 the enactment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 5. CONFORMING CHANGES.**

14 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Employee Re-  
15 tirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002)  
16 is amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (35), by inserting “or a com-  
18 posite plan” after “other than an individual account  
19 plan”; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(43) The term ‘composite plan’ has the mean-  
22 ing given the term in section 801(a).”.

23 (b) SPECIAL FUNDING RULE FOR CERTAIN LEGACY  
24 PLANS.—

1           (1) AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT  
2 INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 304(b) of  
3 the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of  
4 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1084(b)) is amended by adding at  
5 the end the following:

6           “(9) SPECIAL FUNDING RULE FOR CERTAIN  
7 LEGACY PLANS.—In the case of a multiemployer de-  
8 fined benefit plan under which all future benefit ac-  
9 cruals to the plan cease within a plan year ending  
10 no more than 36 months after the date the plan be-  
11 comes a legacy plan under section 805(a), the plan  
12 sponsor may combine the outstanding balance of all  
13 charge and credit bases and amortize that combined  
14 base in level annual installments (until fully amor-  
15 tized) over a period of thirty plan years beginning  
16 with the plan year following the date all benefit ac-  
17 cruals ceased.”.

18           (2) AMENDMENT TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE  
19 OF 1986.—Section 431(b) of the Internal Revenue  
20 Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the  
21 following:

22           “(9) SPECIAL FUNDING RULE FOR CERTAIN  
23 LEGACY PLANS.—In the case of a multiemployer de-  
24 fined benefit plan under which all future benefit ac-  
25 cruals to the plan cease within a plan year ending

1 no more than 36 months after the date the plan be-  
2 comes a legacy plan under section 440A(a), the plan  
3 sponsor may combine the outstanding balance of all  
4 charge and credit bases and amortize that combined  
5 base in level annual installments (until fully amor-  
6 tized) over a period of thirty plan years beginning  
7 with the plan year following the date on which all  
8 benefit accruals ceased.”.

9 (c) BENEFITS AFTER MERGER, CONSOLIDATION, OR  
10 TRANSFER OF ASSETS.—

11 (1) AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT  
12 INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 208 of the  
13 Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974  
14 (29 U.S.C. 1058) is amended—

15 (A) by striking so much of the first sen-  
16 tence as precedes “may not merge” and insert-  
17 ing the following:

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
19 graph (2), a pension plan may not merge, and”;

20 (B) by striking the second sentence and  
21 adding at the end the following:

22 “(2) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MULTIEM-  
23 PLOYER PLANS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to  
24 any transaction to the extent that participants either  
25 before or after the transaction are covered under a

1 multiemployer plan to which title IV of this Act ap-  
2 plies or a composite plan.”.

3 (2) AMENDMENTS TO INTERNAL REVENUE  
4 CODE OF 1986.—

5 (A) QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Sec-  
6 tion 401(a)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code  
7 of 1986 is amended—

8 (i) by striking so much of paragraph  
9 (12) as precedes “shall not constitute” and  
10 inserting the following:

11 “(12) BENEFITS AFTER MERGER, CONSOLIDA-  
12 TION, OR TRANSFER OF ASSETS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
14 subparagraph (B), a trust”; and

15 (ii) by striking the second sentence  
16 and adding at the end the following:

17 “(B) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MULTI-  
18 EMPLOYER PLANS.—Subparagraph (A) shall  
19 not apply to any multiemployer plan with re-  
20 spect to any transaction to the extent that par-  
21 ticipants either before or after the transaction  
22 are covered under a multiemployer plan to  
23 which title IV of the Employee Retirement In-  
24 come Security Act of 1974 applies or a com-  
25 posite plan.”.



1 (B) ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION REQUIRE-  
2 MENT.—Section 414(l) of such Code is amend-  
3 ed—

4 (i) by striking so much of paragraph  
5 (1) as precedes “shall not constitute” and  
6 inserting the following:

7 “(1) BENEFIT PROTECTIONS: MERGER, CON-  
8 SOLIDATION, TRANSFER.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
10 subparagraph (B), a trust which forms a part  
11 of a plan”; and

12 (ii) by striking the second sentence  
13 and adding at the end the following:

14 “(B) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MULTI-  
15 EMPLOYER PLANS.—Subparagraph (A) does not  
16 apply to any multiemployer plan with respect to  
17 any transaction to the extent that participants  
18 either before or after the transaction are cov-  
19 ered under a multiemployer plan to which title  
20 IV of the Employee Retirement Income Secu-  
21 rity Act of 1974 applies or a composite plan.”.

22 (d) REQUIREMENTS FOR STATUS AS A QUALIFIED  
23 PLAN.—

24 (1) REQUIREMENT THAT ACTUARIAL ASSUMP-  
25 TIONS BE SPECIFIED.—Section 401(a)(25) of the In-

1        ternal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by insert-  
2        ing “(in the case of a composite plan, benefits objec-  
3        tively calculated pursuant to a formula)” after “defi-  
4        nitely determinable benefits”.

5            (2) MISSING PARTICIPANTS IN TERMINATING  
6        COMPOSITE PLAN.—Section 401(a)(34) of the Inter-  
7        nal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “,  
8        a trust” and inserting “or a composite plan, a  
9        trust”.

10          (e) DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO A QUALI-  
11        FIED PLAN.—Section 404(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue  
12        Code of 1986 is amended by redesignating subparagraph  
13        (E) as subparagraph (F) and by inserting after subpara-  
14        graph (D) the following:

15            “(E) COMPOSITE PLANS.—

16                    “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a  
17                    composite plan, subparagraph (D) shall  
18                    not apply and the maximum amount de-  
19                    ductible for a plan year shall be the excess  
20                    (if any) of—

21                            “(I) 160 percent of the greater  
22                            of—

23                                    “(aa) the current liability of  
24                                    the plan determined in accord-

1                   ance with the principles of sec-  
2                   tion 431(c)(6)(D); or

3                   “(bb) the present value of  
4                   plan liabilities as determined  
5                   under section 438; over

6                   “(II) the fair market value of the  
7                   plan’s assets, projected to the end of  
8                   the plan year.

9                   “(ii) SPECIAL RULES FOR PREDE-  
10                   CESSOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLAN TO COM-  
11                   POSITE PLAN.—

12                   “(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as  
13                   provided in subclause (II), if an em-  
14                   ployer contributes to a composite plan  
15                   with respect to its employees, con-  
16                   tributions by that employer to a mul-  
17                   tiemployer defined benefit plan with  
18                   respect to some or all of the same  
19                   group of employees shall be deductible  
20                   under sections 162 and this section,  
21                   subject to the limits in subparagraph  
22                   (D).

23                   “(II) TRANSITION CONTRIBU-  
24                   TION.—The full amount of a contribu-  
25                   tion to satisfy the transition contribu-

1                   tion requirement (as defined in sec-  
2                   tion 440A(d)) and allocated to the  
3                   legacy defined benefit plan for the  
4                   plan year shall be deductible for the  
5                   employer's taxable year ending with or  
6                   within the plan year.”.

7           (f) MINIMUM VESTING STANDARDS.—

8                   (1) YEARS OF SERVICE UNDER COMPOSITE  
9                   PLANS.—

10                   (A) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SE-  
11                   CURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 203 of the Em-  
12                   ployee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974  
13                   (29 U.S.C. 1053) is amended by inserting after  
14                   subsection (f) the following:

15                   “(g) SPECIAL RULES FOR COMPUTING YEARS OF  
16                   SERVICE UNDER COMPOSITE PLANS.—

17                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—In determining a qualified  
18                   employee's years of service under a composite plan  
19                   for purposes of this section, the employee's years of  
20                   service under a legacy plan shall be treated as years  
21                   of service earned under the composite plan. For pur-  
22                   poses of such determination, a composite plan shall  
23                   not be treated as a defined benefit plan pursuant to  
24                   section 801(d).

1           “(2) QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of  
2 this subsection, an employee is a qualified employee  
3 if the employee first completes an hour of service  
4 under the composite plan (determined without re-  
5 gard to the provisions of this subsection) within the  
6 12-month period immediately preceding or the 24-  
7 month period immediately following the date the em-  
8 ployee ceased to accrue benefits under the legacy  
9 plan.

10           “(3) CERTIFICATION OF YEARS OF SERVICE.—  
11 For purposes of paragraph (1), the plan sponsor of  
12 the composite plan shall rely on a written certifi-  
13 cation by the plan sponsor of the multiemployer de-  
14 fined benefit plan of the years of service the quali-  
15 fied employee completed under the defined benefit  
16 plan as of the date the employee satisfies the re-  
17 quirements of paragraph (2), disregarding any years  
18 of service that had been forfeited under the rules of  
19 the defined benefit plan before that date.

20           “(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR COMPUTING YEARS OF  
21 SERVICE UNDER LEGACY PLANS.—

22           “(1) IN GENERAL.—In determining a qualified  
23 employee’s years of service under a legacy plan for  
24 purposes of this section, and in addition to any serv-  
25 ice under applicable regulations, the employee’s

1 years of service under a composite plan shall be  
2 treated as years of service earned under the legacy  
3 plan. For purposes of such determination, a com-  
4 posite plan shall not be treated as a defined benefit  
5 plan pursuant to section 801(d).

6 “(2) QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of  
7 this subsection, an employee is a qualified employee  
8 if the employee first completes an hour of service  
9 under the composite plan (determined without re-  
10 gard to the provisions of this subsection) within the  
11 12-month period immediately preceding or the 24-  
12 month period immediately following the date the em-  
13 ployee ceased to accrue benefits under the legacy  
14 plan.

15 “(3) CERTIFICATION OF YEARS OF SERVICE.—  
16 For purposes of paragraph (1), the plan sponsor of  
17 the legacy plan shall rely on a written certification  
18 by the plan sponsor of the composite plan of the  
19 years of service the qualified employee completed  
20 under the composite plan after the employee satisfies  
21 the requirements of paragraph (2), disregarding any  
22 years of service that has been forfeited under the  
23 rules of the composite plan.”.

24 (B) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—  
25 Section 411(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of

1           1986 is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
2           lowing:

3           “(14) SPECIAL RULES FOR DETERMINING  
4           YEARS OF SERVICE UNDER COMPOSITE PLANS.—

5                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining a  
6           qualified employee’s years of service under a  
7           composite plan for purposes of this subsection,  
8           the employee’s years of service under a multi-  
9           employer defined benefit plan shall be treated  
10          as years of service earned under the composite  
11          plan. For purposes of such determination, a  
12          composite plan shall not be treated as a defined  
13          benefit plan pursuant to section 437(d).

14                   “(B) QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE.—For pur-  
15          poses of this paragraph, an employee is a quali-  
16          fied employee if the employee first completes an  
17          hour of service under the composite plan (deter-  
18          mined without regard to the provisions of this  
19          paragraph) within the 12-month period imme-  
20          diately preceding or the 24-month period imme-  
21          diately following the date the employee ceased  
22          to accrue benefits under the multiemployer de-  
23          fined benefit plan.

24                   “(C) CERTIFICATION OF YEARS OF SERV-  
25          ICE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the

1 plan sponsor of the composite plan shall rely on  
2 a written certification by the plan sponsor of  
3 the legacy plan of the years of service the quali-  
4 fied employee completed under the legacy plan  
5 as of the date the employee satisfies the re-  
6 quirements of subparagraph (B), disregarding  
7 any years of service that had been forfeited  
8 under the rules of the defined benefit plan be-  
9 fore that date.

10 “(15) SPECIAL RULES FOR COMPUTING YEARS  
11 OF SERVICE UNDER LEGACY PLANS.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining a  
13 qualified employee’s years of service under a  
14 legacy plan for purposes of this section, and in  
15 addition to any service under applicable regula-  
16 tions, the employee’s years of service under a  
17 composite plan shall be treated as years of serv-  
18 ice earned under the legacy plan. For purposes  
19 of such determination, a composite plan shall  
20 not be treated as a defined benefit plan pursu-  
21 ant to section 437(d).

22 “(B) QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE.—For pur-  
23 poses of this paragraph, an employee is a quali-  
24 fied employee if the employee first completes an  
25 hour of service under the composite plan (deter-



1           mined without regard to the provisions of this  
2           paragraph) within the 12-month period imme-  
3           diately preceding or the 24-month period imme-  
4           diately following the date the employee ceased  
5           to accrue benefits under the legacy plan.

6           “(C) CERTIFICATION OF YEARS OF SERV-  
7           ICE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the  
8           plan sponsor of the legacy plan shall rely on a  
9           written certification by the plan sponsor of the  
10          composite plan of the years of service the quali-  
11          fied employee completed under the composite  
12          plan after the employee satisfies the require-  
13          ments of subparagraph (B), disregarding any  
14          years of service that has been forfeited under  
15          the rules of the composite plan.”.

16          (2) REDUCTION OF BENEFITS.—

17                 (A) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SE-  
18                 CURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 203(a)(3)(E)(ii)  
19                 of the Employee Retirement Income Security  
20                 Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1053(a)(3)(E)(ii)) is  
21                 amended—

22                         (i) in subclause (I) by striking  
23                         “4244A” and inserting “305(e), 803,”;  
24                         and

1 (ii) in subclause (II) by striking  
2 “4245” and inserting “305(e), 4245,”.

3 (B) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—  
4 Section 411(a)(3)(F) of the Internal Revenue  
5 Code of 1986 is amended—

6 (i) in clause (i) by striking “section  
7 418D” and inserting “section 432(e), or  
8 438, or under section 803 or 4281 of the  
9 Employee Retirement Income Security Act  
10 of 1974”; and

11 (ii) in clause (ii) by inserting “or  
12 432(e)” after “section 418E”.

13 (3) ACCRUED BENEFIT REQUIREMENTS.—

14 (A) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SE-  
15 CURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 204(b)(1)(B)(i)  
16 of the Employee Retirement Income Security  
17 Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1054(b)(1)(B)(i)) is  
18 amended by inserting “, including an amend-  
19 ment reducing or suspending benefits under  
20 section 305(e), 803, 4245 or 4281,” after “any  
21 amendment to the plan”.

22 (B) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—  
23 Section 411(b)(1)(B)(i) of the Internal Revenue  
24 Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “, includ-  
25 ing an amendment reducing or suspending ben-

1           efits under section 418E, 432(e) or 438, or  
2           under section 803 or 4281 of the Employee Re-  
3           tirement Income Security Act of 1974,” after  
4           “any amendment to the plan”.

5           (4) ADDITIONAL ACCRUED BENEFIT REQUIRE-  
6           MENTS.—

7                   (A) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SE-  
8                   CURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 204(b)(1)(H)(v)  
9                   of the Employee Retirement Income Security  
10                  Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1053(b)(1)(H)(v)) is  
11                  amended by inserting before the period at the  
12                  end the following: “, or benefits are reduced or  
13                  suspended under section 305(e), 803, 4245, or  
14                  4281”.

15                  (B) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—  
16                  Section 411(b)(1)(H)(iv) of the Internal Rev-  
17                  enue Code of 1986 is amended—

18                          (i) in the heading by striking “BEN-  
19                          EFIT” and inserting “BENEFIT AND THE  
20                          SUSPENSION AND REDUCTION OF CERTAIN  
21                          BENEFITS”; and

22                          (ii) in the text by inserting before the  
23                          period at the end the following: “, or bene-  
24                          fits are reduced or suspended under sec-  
25                          tion 418E, 432(e), or 438, or under sec-

1                   tion 803 or 4281 of the Employee Retirement  
2                   ment Income Security Act of 1974”.

3                   (5) ACCRUED BENEFIT NOT TO BE DECREASED  
4                   BY AMENDMENT.—

5                   (A) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SE-  
6                   curity Act of 1974.—Section 204(g)(1) of the  
7                   Employee Retirement Income Security Act of  
8                   1974 (29 U.S.C. 1053(g)(1)) is amended by in-  
9                   serting after “302(d)(2)” the following: “,  
10                  305(e), 803, 4245,”.

11                  (B) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—  
12                  Section 411(d)(6)(A) of the Internal Revenue  
13                  Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after  
14                  “412(d)(2),” the following: “418E, 432(e), or  
15                  438,”.

16                  (g) CERTAIN FUNDING RULES NOT APPLICABLE.—

17                  (1) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY  
18                  ACT OF 1974.—Section 302(d) of the Employee Re-  
19                  tirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C.  
20                  1082(d)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
21                  lowing:

22                  “(4) CERTAIN EMPLOYERS CONTRIBUTION TO  
23                  LEGACY PLANS.—This section shall not apply to an  
24                  employer that is obligated to contribute both to a  
25                  plan that is a legacy plan within the meaning of sec-

1       tion 805(a) solely because it is obligated to con-  
2       tribute and to a composite plan within the meaning  
3       of section 801 that is associated with that legacy  
4       plan.”.

5               (2) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY  
6       ACT OF 1974.—Section 305 of the Employee Retire-  
7       ment Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085)  
8       is amended by adding at the end the following:

9       “(j) LEGACY PLANS.—Sections 304 and 305 shall  
10      not apply to an employer that has an obligation to con-  
11      tribute to a plan that is a legacy plan within the meaning  
12      of section 805(a) solely because the employer has an obli-  
13      gation to contribute to a composite plan described in sec-  
14      tion 801 that is associated with that legacy plan.”.

15              (3) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—Sec-  
16      tion 432 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is  
17      amended by adding at the end the following:

18      “(j) LEGACY PLANS.—Sections 431 and 432 shall  
19      not apply to an employer that has an obligation to con-  
20      tribute to a plan that is a legacy plan within the meaning  
21      of section 440A solely because the employer has an obliga-  
22      tion to contribute to a composite plan described in section  
23      437 that is associated with that legacy plan.”.

1 (h) TERMINATION OF COMPOSITE PLAN.—Section  
2 403(d) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act  
3 of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1103(d) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “regulations  
5 of the Secretary.” and inserting “regulations of the  
6 Secretary, or as provided in paragraph (3).”; and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(3) Section 4044(a) of this Act shall be ap-  
9 plied in the case of the termination of a composite  
10 plan by—

11 “(A) limiting the benefits subject to para-  
12 graph (3) thereof to benefits as defined in sec-  
13 tion 802(b)(3)(B); and

14 “(B) including in the benefits subject to  
15 paragraph (4) all other benefits (if any) of indi-  
16 viduals under the plan that would be guaran-  
17 teed under section 4022A if the plan were sub-  
18 ject to title IV.”.

19 (i) GOOD FAITH COMPLIANCE PRIOR TO GUID-  
20 ANCE.—Where the implementation of any provision of law  
21 added or amended by this Act is subject to issuance of  
22 regulations by the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of  
23 the Treasury, or the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corpora-  
24 tion, a multiemployer plan shall not be treated as failing  
25 to meet the requirements of any such provision prior to

1 the issuance of final regulations or other guidance to carry  
2 out such provision if such plan is operated in accordance  
3 with a reasonable, good faith interpretation of such provi-  
4 sion.

5 **SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

6 Unless otherwise specified, the amendments made by  
7 this Act shall apply to plan years beginning after the date  
8 of the enactment of this Act.