P4P Webinar: Preparing for the Supreme Court Decision on Health Reform

June 7, 2012
How will the U.S. Supreme Court rule on health reform...
... and what are the implications for plan sponsors?
Supreme Court Decision

- Originally considered by many a frivolous challenge; expected to be quickly resolved by lower courts
- Now, seen as a likely landmark case with potentially far-reaching impact … well beyond health care reform
Agenda

- **When** will the decision be released?
- **What** are the key issues:
  - Challenge to Individual Mandate (IM)
  - Severability: what else falls if IM struck down?
- **What** are the possible outcomes?
- **How** do they impact plan sponsors?
- **How** will the Court rule?
When will the Court rule?

- When will the decision be released?
  - Late June
  - Possibly earlier?
  - Will the Court announce when the decision will be released?
What are the Key Issues?

- Constitutionality of the individual mandate
  - What are the legal issues?
  - What are the main arguments of plaintiffs and federal government?
  - Take-aways from oral arguments
What are the Key Issues?

- Severability: If the individual mandate is unconstitutional, what else falls?
  - What test does the Court apply in determining whether the IM is severable?
  - What are the main arguments of the plaintiffs and federal government?
  - Take-aways from oral arguments
Possible Outcomes

- Individual mandate upheld
  - PPACA implementation continues
  - Congressional response?
  - End of litigation?
Possible Outcomes

- Individual mandate held unconstitutional
  - IM severed and remainder of law stands
  - IM and insurance reforms severed and rest of the law stands
- How does this impact insurance markets? Plan sponsors?
Possible Outcomes

- Individual mandate held unconstitutional
  - IM not severable and entire law is struck down
  - What is the impact on PPACA implementation and compliance?
Immediate Issues for Employers

- What should I do about provisions already implemented?
  - Coverage for children up to age 26
  - Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP) payments
  - First-dollar coverage for preventive care
  - Annual or lifetime dollar limits
  - New claims appeals and external review procedures
Immediate Issues for Employers

- What should I do about provisions in the pipeline for 2012 and 2013?
  - W2 reporting on the value of health coverage
  - Summaries of Benefits and Coverage (SBC)
  - $2500 limit on health FSA
  - PCORI fee
Looking Ahead to 2014 …

- What about provisions effective 2014 and beyond?
  - Employer shared responsibility (4980H)
  - Automatic enrollment
  - Exchanges and premium subsidies
  - Wellness plan incentive increase to 30%
  - High cost plan tax
Strategic Issues for Employers

- What immediate guidance will be needed to clarify compliance obligations?
- Will Congress attempt to fix any constitutional defects? What will the President propose?
- What portions of the law might continue under agency authority?
- What happens to coverage under the health insurance exchanges and will it still be available?
- What communications should I make to employees?
Predictions?
For More Information
www.americanbenefitscouncil.org

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