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DOL WEBPAGE ON HEALTH CARE REFORM PROVIDES USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES FOR EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS

*DOL webpage: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
Available at <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform/>*

The DOL has created a new webpage that contains links to a variety of resources relating to the major health care reform legislation—the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)—that became law in March 2010. The webpage includes links to statements by the DOL Secretary and Assistant Secretary, links to White House and HHS webpages about health reform, and a link to an IRS webpage about the new small employer tax credit. There are also links to several items under a heading "House Committees Health Insurance Reform at a Glance," three of which may be of interest for employers:

- **Summary.** This three-page summary provides an easily digestible overview of the PPACA. It breaks the new law down into nine categories and then summarizes key points of interest under each subheading.
- **Implementation Timeline.** This chronological journey through health care reform is a great summary of what lies ahead. Grouped by year, from 2010 through 2018, this document lists the many components of health care reform that will become effective and provides a brief description of each one.
- **Employers and Health Reform.** This document is the most employer-centric of these "at-a-glance" offerings. In summary fashion, under the headings "small employers," "larger employers," and "all employers," it lists health care reform items that are relevant to the named employer group.

EBIA Comment: For employers, and for those insurers and advisors working with employer-sponsored plans, the various resources that Federal agencies are beginning to make available will help in their efforts to navigate these deep new waters. The at-a-glance items don't provide details or citations, but they are a good starting point for those trying to get their bearings. And this webpage is one to watch, along with the other outside resources it links to. In the months ahead, these and many other repositories will grow and change as additional guidance is issued and more health care reform changes become effective.