FRTIB Blended Retirement

PRESENTED BY
THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT
THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

Thrift Savings Plan

tsp4gov@

Outline

- Uniformed Services Update – Tom Emswiler

- Project Implementation– Tanner Nohe
    - Accomplishments
    - Schedule
    - Critical Risks

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Accomplishments

Communications

- Over 85 Pieces of communications were revised or created

- Over 35 Web pages revised

- 3 Videos created

- 2 Payroll Bulletins (1 new)

- Assisted with the creation of DoD communications and trainings

- Participated in social media promotions along with DoD

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New Booklet: *Managing Your Account for Members of the Uniformed Services*

Getting Started

Enrolling in the TSP

Uniformed services members who participate in the Thrift Savings Plan fall into one of three categories:

- BRS New Accessions: You were automatically enrolled in the Blended Retirement System (BRS) because you entered the uniformed services on or after January 1, 2018.

- BRS Opt-In: You started before January 1, 2018, and chose to join BRS.

- Non-BRS: You started before January 1, 2018, and either were not eligible to or opted not to join BRS, but you have chosen to open a TSP account.

The category you're in determines how you get enrolled and what happens to your contributions.

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New Fact Sheet to Help Opt-in-Eligible Service Members Decide

Questions and Answers about Opting into the Blended Retirement System (BRS)

If you're a member of the uniformed services who will have served for fewer than 12 years[1] on December 31, 2017, you will have an important decision to make between January 1 and December 31, 2018: You must choose whether to stay with your current retirement system or move to the new Blended Retirement System (BRS). Once you make your choice, you won't be able to take it back, even if you change your mind before the 12/31/18 deadline.

No one but you can make this decision for you. This fact sheet is intended to provide you with basic information about your options. See the information under "Resources" for more details.

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New Service Rep Bulletins

TSP**BULLETIN** for Service TSP Representatives

Bulletin 17-U-1   **April 5, 2017**

Implementation of the Blended Retirement System

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016, Public Law 114-92, signed into law November 25, 2015, authorized the uniformed services[1] to change their traditional retirement plan from one that relied primarily on a cliff-vested defined benefit to one that blends a reduced defined benefit with enhanced Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) benefits, continuation pay, and retention bonuses paid at defined career milestones. The new retirement system is known as the Blended Retirement System (BRS).

[1] The uniformed services consist of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, and the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Services may not make Blended Retirement System (BRS) contributions prior to the first full pay period in 2018.

This bulletin discusses the changes to records and reports that both the TSP and the services must implement to process the contributions of members who are participating in the BRS. TSP Bulletin 02-U-21 📄, dated July 25, 2002, explains how payroll office submissions of member data and TSP contributions are processed after September 2002; TSP Bulletin 05-U-2 📄, dated January 26, 2005, discusses the elimination of TSP open seasons and the restrictions on contribution elections that are tied to open seasons; and TSP Bulletin 11-U-8 📄, dated September 19, 2011, discusses the implementation of Roth TSP contributions.

I. Definitions

II. Automatic Enrollment and Reenrollment
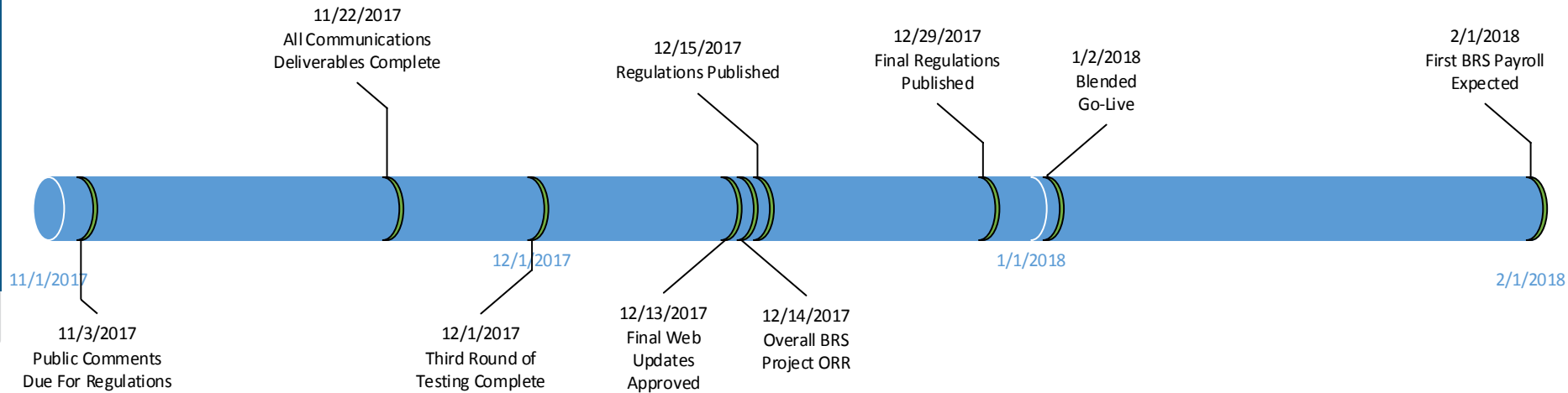
III. Procedures for Members Who Have Opted into BRS

IV. Employee Data (06) Record (EDR)

V. Erroneous Forfeitures of Service Automatic (1%) Contributions

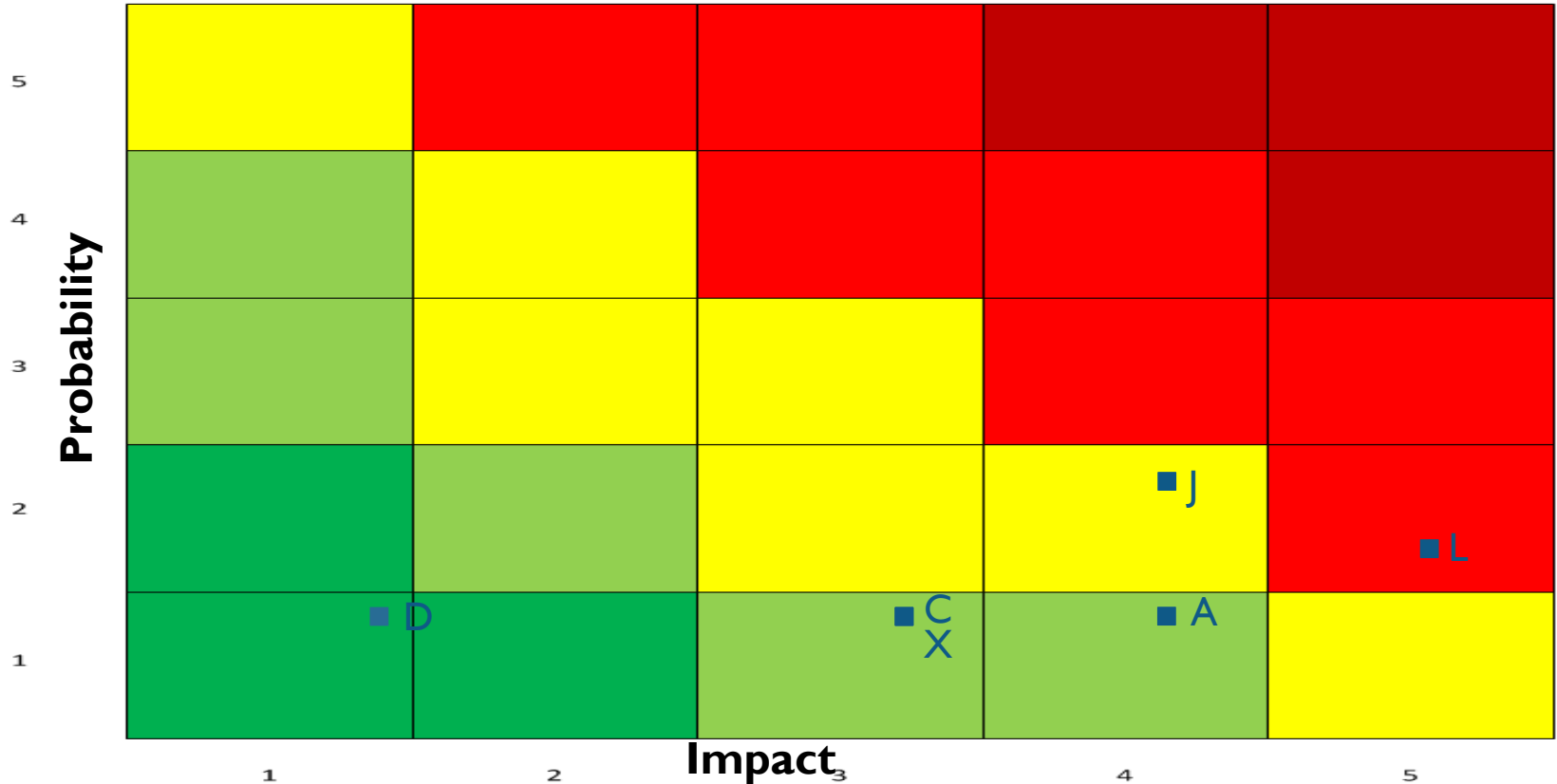VI. New Default Investment Fund for Blended Retirement and Beneficiary TSP Participants

VII. Processing Service Automatic (1%) Contributions and Matching Contributions

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Schedule

11/22/2017
All Communications
Deliverables Complete

12/15/2017
Regulations Published

12/29/2017
Final Regulations
Published

1/2/2018
Blended
Go-Live

2/1/2018
First BRS Payroll
Expected

11/1/2017

12/1/2017

1/1/2018

2/1/2018

11/3/2017
Public Comments
Due For Regulations

12/1/2017
Third Round of
Testing Complete

12/13/2017
Final Web
Updates
Approved

12/14/2017
Overall BRS
Project ORR

TRR – Test Readiness Review
DRR – Development Readiness Review
ORR – Operational Readiness Review

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Critical Risks

Risk #	Risk Description	Mitigation Strategy
L	If Thriftline is not upgraded to process higher volumes, then participant services will be impacted	Thriftline hairpin fix has been completed and will be employed if the Thriftline Modernization project scheduled to be completed at the end of October encounters delays.

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QUESTIONS?

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