

# Create a Windfall for Your 401(k) Using New Disclosure Rules

By: Cynthia S. Ellner

<http://retirement-wisdom.com/>

It's not often that the government creates new ways for Americans to boost their retirement dollars, but the new rules that require plan sponsors and employers to disclose all the fees your 401(k) is subject to, could ultimately put more dollars in your account.

When you receive your next statement, take a look and use this guide to help you analyze where you could save costs:

- **Take a look at what you're being charged.** You'll see a list of charges for your investments in the plan. You have to pay some fees, but if you see that one fund is eating up too much in fees, think about changing it.
- **Focus on the lowest cost investments.** You want some diversification in your retirement plan, but the largest chunks of your money should be in the lowest cost options.
- **Don't not contribute just because of fees.** If there are no low cost funds within the plan, but you receive an employer match, keep contributing to get the maximum match. Then sock money away in an IRA.
- **Check out low-cost index funds.** The funds should have expense ratios below 50 percent, and many charge under 10 percent.
- **Talk to your human resources department about making a switch.** If enough employees speak up about exorbitant fees, employers listen. They don't want to risk low plan participation, which means unhappy employees that would rather work elsewhere.

About California Pensions

California Pensions, incorporated since 1968, designs and administers retirement plans for professionals. **Contact us to get your free "7 Common Defects in Small Business and Professional Plans that can Destroy Your Retirement Dreams."** And call 310-400-5571 or email [csellner@pacpensions.com](mailto:csellner@pacpensions.com) today to set up your appointment.

*Happiness is teaching your children about a secure retirement.*