

APPENDIX B TO PART 4011—TABLE OF MAXIMUM GUARANTEED BENEFITS

The maximum guaranteed benefit for an individual starting to receive benefits at the age listed below is the amount (monthly or annual) listed below:								
If a plan terminates in—	Age 65		Age 62		Age 60		Age 55	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
2000	\$3,221.59	\$38,659.08	\$2,545.06	\$30,540.72	\$2,094.03	\$25,128.36	\$1,449.72	\$17,396.64

Issued in Washington, DC, this 19th day of November, 1999.

David M. Strauss,

Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 99-31044 Filed 11-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7708-01-P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

29 CFR Part 4044

Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Valuation of Benefits and Assets; Expected Retirement Age

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule amends the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans by substituting a new table that applies to any plan being terminated either in a distress termination or involuntarily by the PBGC with a valuation date falling in 2000, and is used to determine expected retirement ages for plan participants. This table is needed in order to compute the value of early retirement benefits and, thus, the total value of benefits under the plan.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026; 202-326-4024. (For TTY/TDD users, call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044) sets forth (in subpart B) the methods for valuing plan benefits of terminating single-employer plans covered under Title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Under ERISA section 4041(c), guaranteed benefits and benefit

liabilities under a plan that is undergoing a distress termination must be valued in accordance with part 4044, subpart B. In addition, when the PBGC terminates an underfunded plan involuntarily pursuant to ERISA Section 4042(a), it uses the subpart B valuation rules to determine the amount of the plan's underfunding.

Under § 4044.51(b), early retirement benefits are valued based on the annuity starting date, if a retirement date has been selected, or the expected retirement age, if the annuity starting date is not known on the valuation date. Sections 4044.55 through 4044.57 set forth rules for determining the expected retirement ages for plan participants entitled to early retirement benefits. Appendix D of part 4044 contains tables to be used in determining the expected early retirement ages.

Table I in appendix D (Selection of Retirement Rate Category) is used to determine whether a participant has a low, medium, or high probability of retiring early. The determination is based on the year a participant would reach "unreduced retirement age" (*i.e.*, the earlier of the normal retirement age or the age at which an unreduced benefit is first payable) and the participant's monthly benefit at unreduced retirement age. The table applies only to plans with valuation dates in the current year and is updated annually by the PBGC to reflect changes in the cost of living, etc.

Tables II-A, II-B, and II-C (Expected Retirement Ages for Individuals in the Low, Medium, and High Categories respectively) are used to determine the expected retirement age after the probability of early retirement has been determined using Table I. These tables establish, by probability category, the expected retirement age based on both the earliest age a participant could retire under the plan and the unreduced retirement age. This expected retirement age is used to compute the value of the early retirement benefit and, thus, the total value of benefits under the plan.

This document amends appendix D to replace Table I-99 with Table I-00 in order to provide an updated correlation,

appropriate for calendar year 2000, between the amount of a participant's benefit and the probability that the participant will elect early retirement. Table I-00 will be used to value benefits in plans with valuation dates during calendar year 2000.

The PBGC has determined that notice of and public comment on this rule are impracticable and contrary to the public interest. Plan administrators need to be able to estimate accurately the value of plan benefits as early as possible before initiating the termination process. For that purpose, if a plan has a valuation date in 2000, the plan administrator needs the updated table being promulgated in this rule. Accordingly, the public interest is best served by issuing this table expeditiously, without an opportunity for notice and comment, to allow as much time as possible to estimate the value of plan benefits with the proper table for plans with valuation dates in early 2000.

The PBGC has determined that this action is not a "significant regulatory action" under the criteria set forth in Executive Order 12866.

Because no general notice of proposed rulemaking is required for this regulation, the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 does not apply (5 U.S.C. 601(2)).

List of Subjects in 29 CFR Part 4044

Pension insurance, Pensions.

In consideration of the foregoing, 29 CFR part 4044 is amended as follows:

PART 4044—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 4044 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 29 U.S.C. 1301(a), 1302(b)(3), 1341, 1344, 1362.

2. Appendix D to part 4044 is amended by removing Table I-99 and adding in its place Table I-00 to read as follows:

Appendix D to Part 4044—Tables Used to Determine Expected Retirement Age

TABLE I-00—SELECTION OF RETIREMENT RATE CATEGORY
(For Plans with valuation dates after December 31, 1999, and before January 1, 2001)

Participant reaches URA in year—	Participant's Retirement Rate Category is—			
	Low ¹ if monthly benefit at URA is less than—	Medium ² if monthly benefit at URA is		High ³ if monthly benefit at URA is greater than—
		From	To	
2001	430	430	1,814	1,814
2002	440	440	1,856	1,856
2003	450	450	1,899	1,899
2004	461	461	1,942	1,942
2005	471	471	1,987	1,987
2006	482	482	2,033	2,033
2007	493	493	2,080	2,080
2008	504	504	2,127	2,127
2009	516	516	2,176	2,176
2010 or later	528	528	2,226	2,226

¹ Table II-A.² Table II-B.³ Table II-C.

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Issued in Washington, DC, this 19th day of November, 1999.

David M. Strauss,

Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 99-31043 Filed 11-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7708-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

32 CFR Part 287

[DISA Instruction 630-225-8]

Defense Information Systems Agency Freedom of Information Act Program

AGENCY: Defense Information Systems Agency, DoD.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This part applies to the Department of Defense, Defense Information Systems Agency and the Office of the Manager, National Communications System (OMNCS). The regulation provides guidance on the implementation of the "Freedom of Information Act Program" within the Defense Information Systems Agency and the OMNCS. It was written to comply with the Freedom of Information Act, as amended by the "Electronic Freedom of Information Act" amendments of 1996.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 30, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Defense Information Systems Agency, Attn: RGC (FOIA Officer), 701 South Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22204.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robin M. Berger, (703) 607-6515.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review"

It has been determined that 32 CFR part 287 is not a significant regulatory action. The rule does not:

(1) Have an annual effect of the economy of \$100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy; a section of the economy; productivity; competition; jobs; the environment; public health or safety; or State, local, or tribal governments or communities;

(2) Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another Agency;

(3) Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs, or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof; or

(4) Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive Order.

Public Law 96-354, "Regulatory Flexibility Act" (5 U.S.C. 601)

It has been certified that this rule is not subject to the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601) because it would not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This part would provide guidance on the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act Program within the Defense Information Systems Agency and the Office of the Manager, National Communications System (OMNCS). It was written to comply with the

Freedom of Information Act, as amended by the Electronic Freedom of Information Act amendments of 1996.

Public Law 104-13, "Paperwork Reduction Act" (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35)

It has been certified that this part does not impose any reporting or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Public Law 96-354, "Regulatory Flexibility Act" (5 U.S.C. 601)

It has been certified that this rule is not subject to the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601) because it would not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This part would provide guidance on the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act Program within the Defense Information Systems Agency and the Office of the Manager, National Communications System (OMNCS). It was written to comply with the Freedom of Information Act, as amended by the Electronic Freedom of Information Act amendments of 1996.

List of Subjects in 32 CFR Part 287

Freedom of information.

Accordingly, 32 CFR part 287 is revised to read as follows:

PART 287—DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PROGRAM

Sec.

287.1 Purpose.

287.2 Applicability.

287.3 Authority.

287.4 Duties of the FOIA Officer.

287.5 Responsibilities.