

# Washington's State Retirement Security Initiative

Carolyn McKinnon
Policy Advisor & Marketplace Director

#WashSBRM

Washington State Department Of Commerce

#### NCSL, August 2016: In a word or phrase, what keeps us from adequately saving for retirement?



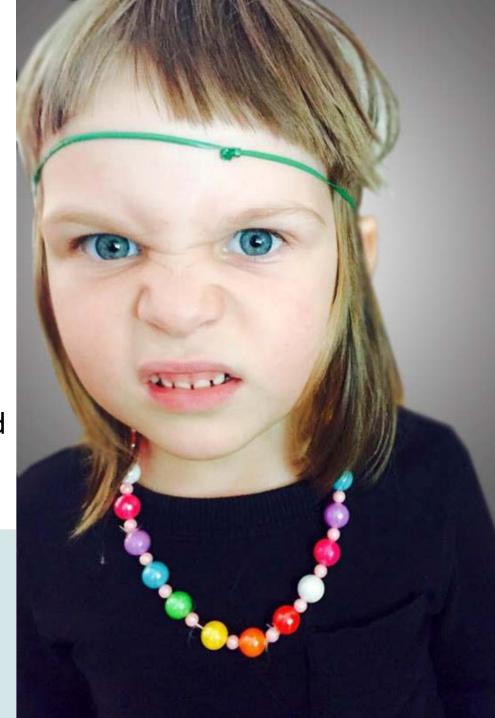


Over 40% of Washington's worker aren't covered in the workplace

90,000 small businesses offer no retirement savings benefits

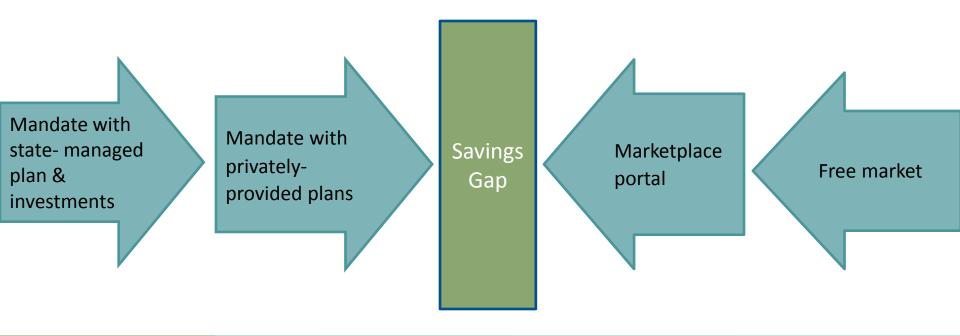
½ of annual salary saved in DC accounts for 40-somethings; should be 3-4x

Washington's retirement savings gap





#### National policy context



8 states with enacted legislation (OR, IL, CA, CT, MD, WA, NJ, MA)

+/- 20 others at various stages of assessing policy alternatives



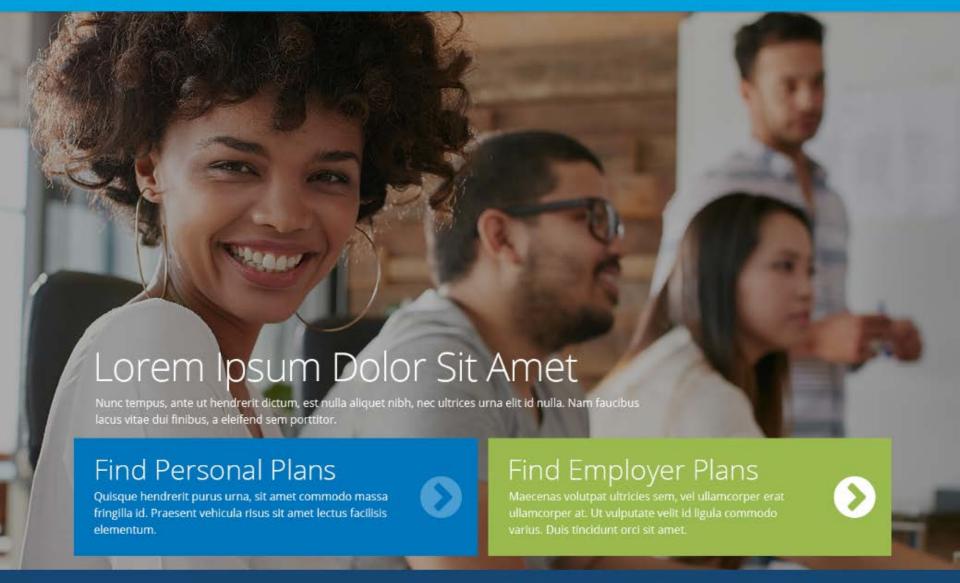
#### Washington's first-in-thenation to launch retirement security initiative

The Retirement Marketplace is an online portal where small businesses and individuals comparison shop for low-cost retirement savings plans.

It's easy to use, informative and motivational.







#### Find a Retirement Plan in 4 Easy Steps



Consensus Legislation ESSB 5826 (2015)

### **Creating Washington's Small Business Retirement Marketplace**

- AARP Washington
- Economic Opportunity Institute
- Small Business Majority
- Securities Industry & Financial Markets Association (SIFMA)
- Russell Investments
- National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors
- American Council of Life Insurers
- Washington Bankers Association





#### Washington's marketplace approach

- Small businesses, self-employed, sole-proprietors, individuals
- Voluntary
- No new regulation

#### **Financial Services Firms**

- Licensed or hold a certificate of authority
- Be in good standing
- Meet all federal laws and regulations
- Commerce may not limit or constrain industry entrants to the Marketplace.



## Financial services product verification and approval is a 2-step Process

1. Get verified by a Washington State-based regulatory entity:

Department of Financial Institutions

- Initial verification process for firm and plans
- Annual renewal

Office of Insurance Commissioner

- Rates & Forms Filing: New form for carriers and products for the Marketplace.
- 2. Complete a simple application with Washington's Department of Commerce.

Status: The verification and application process opens THIS WEEK as a continuous open process.



#### A marketplace of choices, the promise of low cost

#### Commerce will approve a diverse array of verified plan options:

- SIMPLE-IRA type plans where employer contributes
- 401(k)
- Payroll deduction IRA type of plan
- myRA
- Life insurance plans for the purposes of retirement

#### WAC 365-65-080 Limits on fees.

A verified financial services firm that offers approved plans in the marketplace may not charge participating employers an administrative fee, and may not charge enrollees more than one hundred basis points in total annual fees.



#### Portability is a priority

Nothing in the Marketplace rules or statute shall be construed to limit rollovers, or the portability of an employee's retirement savings into or out of approved plans.

An approved plan must include the option for an enrollee to roll pretax contributions into a different individual retirement account or another eligible retirement plan in accordance with federal tax laws providing for tax free rollovers after ceasing participation in the approved plan.



If we build it, will they come?

How will we know what success looks like?

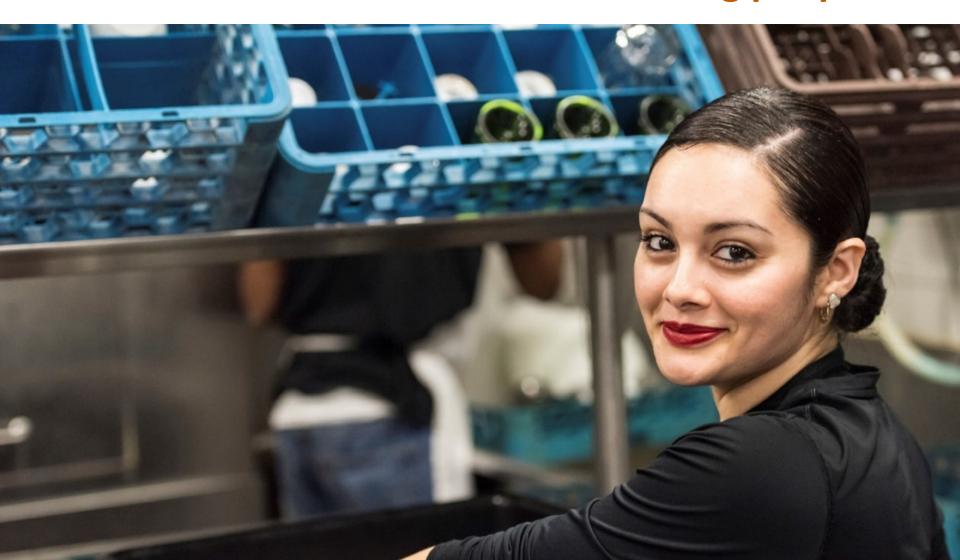
Will we know it when we see it?

What can we accomplish in a voluntary system?





#### Outreach to small businesses & working people





Homegrown champions

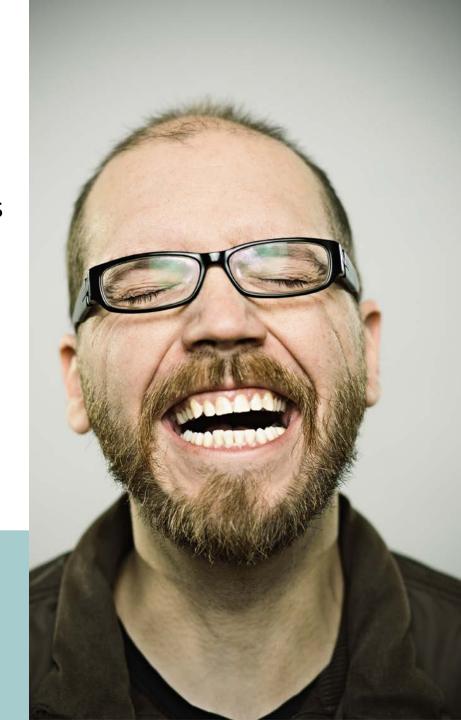
Financial services consultant – help us speak to industry

Co-branding/cross-promotional opportunities

Request for Information (RFI)

Cultivating working group of participants once launched

**Engaging the financial** services industry





#### Scalable and easy-to-adopt solution for publicprivate exchange

- Built on an intuitive content management platform
- Optimized to include a detailed decision path
- Has the ability to compare products
- Can be modified to fit a variety of content





# Launching January 2017

#### **Carolyn McKinnon**

Washington State Department of Commerce 360.725.3121

carolyn.mckinnon@commerce.wa.gov

