

2025 Federal Wins

New Tax Law

The budget reconciliation tax package passed by Congress in July preserved favorable tax treatment of life insurance, retirement incentives, and group health tax exclusions, while maintaining current tax treatment for carried interest rules, the C-SALT deduction, and existing rates, and making permanent the passthrough income deduction.

CMS

CMS rescinded a proposed policy that would have required agents and brokers to reconnect their online federally facilitated marketplace account credentials after just 30 minutes of inactivity following pushback from NAIFA and other trade associations. CMS also withdrew a December 3 memo requiring 1-800 Medicare as the only enrollment option for disaster SEP.

Medicare

CMS's proposed rule, *Contract Year 2027 Policy and Technical Changes to the Medicare Advantage Program, Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program, and Medicare Cost Plan Program*, included several NAIFA-supported provisions, including changes to the definition of third-party marketing organizations (TPMOs), scope of appointment parameters, call recording retention requirements, special enrollment periods for provider terminations, and unnecessary restrictions currently in place for educational and marketing events.

Short-Term Limited Duration Health Insurance

The Departments of Labor and Treasury announced they will not enforce the three-month limit on short-term limited duration health insurance plans while reviewing the 2024 rule, allowing plans lasting up to 12 months and renewable for up to 3 years.

Alternative Investments

President Trump issued an Executive Order allowing alternative investments (crypto, private equity, lifetime income strategies, real estate, and commodities) in 401(k) plans.

Affordable Care Act (ACA)

The Paperwork Burden Reduction Act (H.R. 3797) and the Employer Reporting Improvement Act (H.R. 3801) were signed into law, alleviating ACA reporting administrative burdens.

INVEST Act

In December, the House passed the bipartisan INVEST Act to expand retirement-planning options for teachers, hospital workers, nonprofit employees, and others. NAIFA's advocacy focused on four primary bills found within the INVEST Act:

- Retirement Fairness for Charities and Educational Institutions Act of 2025 (HR 1013)
- Senior Security Act (HR 1469)
- Fair Investment Opportunities for Professional Experts Act (HR 3394)
- Fair Investment Opportunities for Professional Experts Act (HR3339)

DOL Fiduciary-Only Proposal

A federal court dismissed the DOL's appeal of a decision that stayed the Biden Administration-era regulation. The stay, which remains in place, was the result of a lawsuit filed by NAIFA, several NAIFA chapters in Texas, the American Council of Life Insurers, and others. Fifteen members of Congress also filed an amicus brief in support of NAIFA's position.