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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR


By Bill Cutlip

Welcome to another edition of the newsletter of the fastest-growing Section in the Society. The subject matter evolves with daily changes in society keeping the membership on its toes.

This was brought home when I was reviewing the articles for this edition. The news in them is current, and, in fact, so current that Florian Leger had to prepare a timely revision to his original article on the French Pension System. The original article had good background on possible changes to the system and how that will affect retirement for Frenchmen. Suddenly, over the past two days of editing for publication (Oct. 26–27, 2010) both houses voted approval for the changes, so Florian agreed to an update.

You'll also note that this issue of the newsletter should make Charles McLeod happy. He sent a comment on *In the Public Interest's* first issue, stating it was weighted to articles from the United States. Well, Charles, we have three main articles this month: one from Canada on drugs, another on European pension privatization, and a third on the French pension program. Thanks for your suggestion. Social insurance and public finance (SIPF) is truly a global issue! So much is happening in the world which impacts actuaries. SIPF may not include a specific area of practice for you, but the results of government and social financial actions certainly affect your personal, if not professional, life.

We also have opportunities to help friends, the public and legislators. Our skills in understanding and measuring risks can put new perspective on questions. We may not be able to supply all the answers, but at least we can raise questions for others to ask and perspectives which will cause people to ask questions.

Read the SIPF newsletters and updated topics on the website as they become available. They will help you keep abreast of issues and where to find answers. 

Bill Cutlip
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Editor for this Issue

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