



James A. Klein
Senior Advisor
American Benefits Council
Washington, D.C.

James A. Klein is senior advisor of the American Benefits Council, a Washington, D.C.–based association representing the broadest reach of the private employee benefits system: company sponsors of employee benefits, plan providers and benefits professionals. The Council’s members either sponsor directly or provide services to employee benefit plans serving virtually all U.S. individuals who have employer-sponsored coverage. Klein served as president of the Council for 33 years prior to assuming his current role in 2025. In 2023 and 2024, Washingtonian magazine named him one of the 500 most influential people shaping public policy. He is the 2025 recipient of the Employee Benefit Research Institute Lifetime Achievement Award. Klein serves on the International Foundation Government Liaison Committee and was the recipient of the Foundation's 2018 Public Service Award. He is a fellow of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel and a member of the editorial advisory board of Benefits Quarterly. In the international arena, Klein serves as a private sector advisor to the Working Party on Insurance and Pensions of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. He is a graduate of Tufts University and the National Law Center–George Washington University.