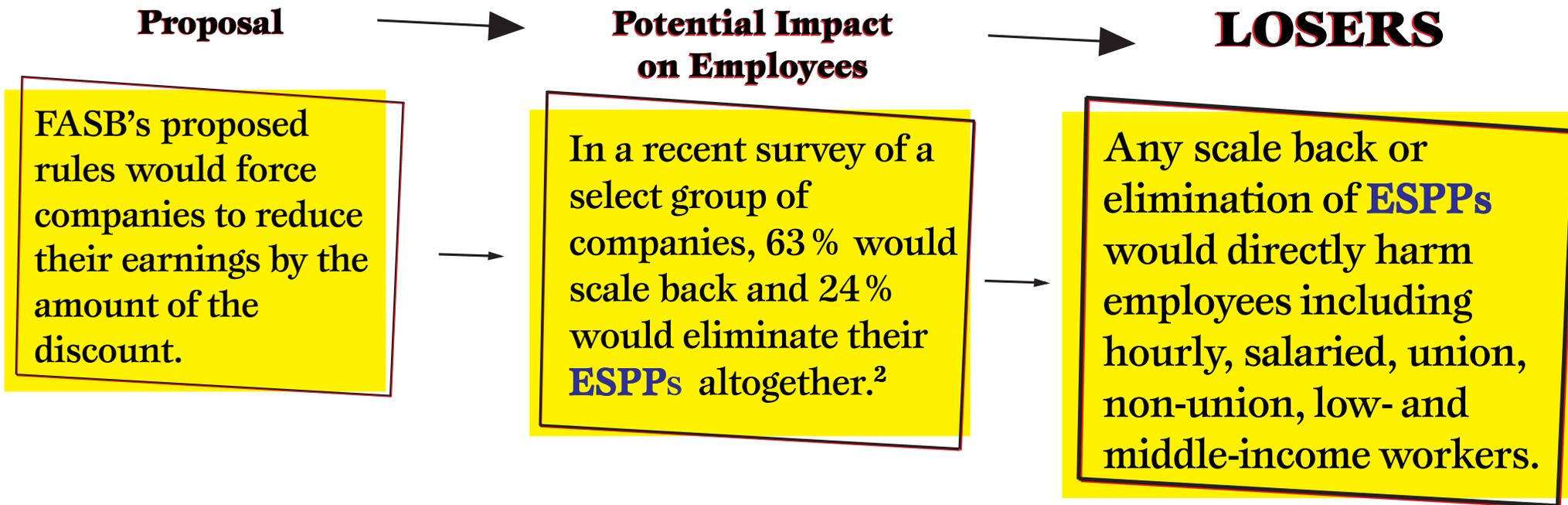


# FASB Attacks Employee Stock Purchase Plans (ESPPs)

- **ESPPs** are one of the most popular ways for employees to have an ownership stake in their company. More American workers participate in **ESPPs** than any other form of employee ownership plan. Almost **16 million workers** in **4,000 companies** participate in **ESPPs**. Moreover, **about half of hourly workers** who are offered an ESPP take advantage of it.<sup>1</sup>
- *What is it?* An **ESPP** allows employees to buy employer stock at a discount (up to 15%), through payroll withholding. **ESPPs** are typically offered to ALL employees working for a company.

## *What is FASB doing and who stands to lose?*



<sup>1</sup> National Center for Employee Ownership, December 2003

<sup>2</sup> Deloitte & Touche 2003 Technology Stock Compensation Survey drew responses from 196 companies, 175 of which are in the technology industry.