United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 142 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1996 No. 116

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We are aware, O God, that the thoughts we think are translated into words and our words are transposed into action and all that we do has great effect on us and those whom we represent and serve. Remind us day by day, O God, that what we think or say or do has a profound impression on the meaning and substance of all things. May Your word of peace be made known in our lives and may all we ask or think or do bring glory to Your creation and serve people whatever their need. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PALLONE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment, a bill and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 3215. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to repeal the provision relating to Federal employees contracting or trading with Indians.

H.J. Res. 166. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the Mutual Aid Agreement between the city of Bristol, Virginia, and the city of Bristol, Tennessee.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1936. An act to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.

S. 1995. An act to authorize construction of the Smithsonian Institution National Air and Space Museum Dulles Center at Washington Dulles International Airport, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will make a statement.

On May 25, 1995, the Chair took the opportunity to reiterate guidelines on the prohibition against former Members exercising floor privileges during the consideration of a matter in which they have a personal or pecuniary interest or are employed or retained as a lobbyist.

Clause 3 of House rule XXXII and the subsequent guidelines issued by previous Speakers on this matter make it clear that consideration of legislative measures is not limited solely to those pending before the House. Consideration also includes all bills and resolutions either which have been called up by a full committee or subcommittee or on which hearings have been held by a full committee or subcommittee of the House.

Former Members can be prohibited from privileges of the floor, the Speaker's lobby and respective Cloakrooms should it be ascertained they have direct interests in legislation that is before a subcommittee, full committee, or the House. Not only do those circumstances prohibit former Members but the fact that a former Member is employed or retained by a lobbying organization attempting to directly or indirectly influence pending legislation is cause for prohibiting access to the House Chamber.

First announced by Speaker O'Neill on January 6, 1977, again on June 7, 1978, and by Speaker Foley in 1994, the guidelines were intended to prohibit former Members from using their floor privileges under the restrictions laid out in this rule. This restriction extends not only to the House floor but adjacent rooms, the Cloakrooms, and the Speaker's lobby.

Members who have reason to know that a former Member is on the floor inconsistent with clause 3, rule XXXII should notify the Sergeant at Arms promptly.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain ten 1 minutes on each side.

THIS CONGRESS THE MOST PRODUCTIVE IN DECADES

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Republican Congress on the work that it is achieving this week in culmination of what has been years of hard work.

Yesterday the President agreed to sign our welfare reform measure and we passed it overwhelmingly through this body. We are going to go out now and address the needs of the American working men and women and the American family.

After this week is over, if the President again agrees to sign the work before this body, men and women working in America will no longer have to be afraid to change jobs, will no longer have to be concerned that they will

Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

lose their insurance portability, will no longer have to be disadvantaged if they are self-employed in the acquisition of the insurance that best fits their family's needs.

In addition to that, given the terrible burdens that fall on the family when two parents are working outside the home, we have an opportunity to allow them to have the choice, in legislation we will pass through this House this week, to choose between overtime and flex time so that those families that value time with their children more than the extra money may be free to choose for that configuration of compensation and time that best suits the needs of the family.

These are indeed good days for the families of America, and I must say, Mr. Speaker, I am so proud of the work that is done by this Republican Congress, the most productive Congress in decades.

KENNEDY HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM BILL BROUGHT TO HOUSE FLOOR

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is a testimony to President Clinton and to the Democrats in Congress that the Kennedy health insurance reform bill will finally be brought to the floor in the House of Representatives today.

It was not until President Clinton this year, in his State of the Union address, said that he wanted to see health care reform and that people could take their health insurance with them when they changed jobs or lost jobs, or that they would not be barred from health insurance because of preexisting medical conditions, it was not until the President came forward and said he wanted that bill, a clean bill passed, that finally we were able to, grudgingly, get the Republican leadership to move this health insurance reform bill.

Even so, the Republican leadership constantly tried to kill and destroy the bill by throwing in the poison pill of medical savings accounts. Finally, the bill that comes to the floor today is essentially a clean bill. There is some provision for MSA's but it is a very small provision.

It was the recognition of the fact that only a clean bill, as promulgated and as preached by President Clinton, could pass this House and pass the Senate, it was only when the Republican leadership understood that, that it was possible to bring this bill to the floor today.

CONGRESS REFORMS HEALTH CARE AND WELFARE THIS WEEK

(Mr. GANSKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, today we take up the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. This bill is long overdue. The American people have demanded this kind of change for many years. We will provide genuine health care reform, expand accessibility, ensure portability, and all without a Government takeover of the health care sector.

This bill fights fraud and abuse, it allows the self-employed to increase their health care deductible, it establishes medical savings accounts, and it provides deductions for long-term care.

This is a win-win proposal for the American people. We will provide expanded health care coverage without creating huge new bureaucracies. In fact, we will give more power to individuals to make their own decisions on health insurance.

Mr. Speaker, the debate gets pretty hot sometimes, but this week alone we will have reformed health care and welfare. I want to salute my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have helped make this the most productive Congress in a generation.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3448, SMALL BUSINESS JOB PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

Mr. ARCHER submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 3448) to provide tax relief for small businesses, to protect jobs, to create opportunities, to increase the take home pay of workers, to amend the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 relating to the payment of wages to employees who use employer owned vehicles, and to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage rate and to prevent job loss by providing flexibility to employers in complying with minimum wage and overtime requirements under that Act:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 104–737)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3448), to provide tax relief for small businesses, to protect jobs, to create opportunities, to increase the take home pay of workers, to amend the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 relating to the payment of wages to employees who use employer owned vehicles, and to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage rate and to prevent job loss by providing flexibility to employers in complying with minimum wage and overtime requirements under that Act, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

TITLE I

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 1, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment, insert the following:

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—SMALL BUSINESS AND OTHER TAX PROVISIONS

Sec. 1101. Amendment of 1986 Code.
Sec. 1102. Underpayments of estimated tax.

Subtitle A—Expensing; Etc.

Sec. 1111. Increase in expense treatment for small businesses.
Sec. 1112. Treatment of employee tips.
Sec. 1113. Treatment of storage of product samples.
Sec. 1114. Treatment of certain charitable risk pools.
Sec. 1115. Treatment of dues paid to agricultural or horticultural organizations.
Sec. 1116. Clarification of employment tax status of certain fishermen.
Sec. 1117. Modifications of tax-exempt bond rules for first-time farmers.
Sec. 1118. Newspaper distributors treated as direct sellers.
Sec. 1119. Application of involuntary conversion rules to presidentially declared disasters.
Sec. 1120. Class life for gas station convenience stores and similar structures.
Sec. 1121. Treatment of abandonment of lessor improvements at termination of lease.
Sec. 1122. Special rules relating to determination whether individuals are employees for purposes of employment taxes.
Sec. 1123. Treatment of housing provided to employees by academic health centers.

Subtitle B—Extension of Certain Expiring Provisions

Sec. 1201. Work opportunity tax credit.
Sec. 1202. Employer-provided educational assistance programs.
Sec. 1203. FUTA exemption for alien agricultural workers.
Sec. 1204. Research credit.
Sec. 1205. Orphan drug tax credit.
Sec. 1206. Contributions of stock to private foundations.
Sec. 1207. Extension of binding contract date for biomass and coal facilities.
Sec. 1208. Moratorium for excise tax on diesel fuel sold for use or used in diesel-powered motorboats.

Subtitle C—Provisions Relating to S Corporations

Sec. 1301. S corporations permitted to have 75 shareholders.
Sec. 1302. Electing small business trusts.
Sec. 1303. Expansion of post-death qualification for certain trusts.
Sec. 1304. Financial institutions permitted to hold safe harbor debt.
Sec. 1305. Rules relating to inadvertent terminations and invalid elections.
Sec. 1306. Agreement to terminate year.
Sec. 1307. Expansion of post-termination transition period.
Sec. 1308. S corporations permitted to hold subsidiaries.
Sec. 1309. Treatment of distributions during loss years.
Sec. 1310. Treatment of S corporations under subchapter C.
Sec. 1311. Elimination of certain earnings and profits.
Sec. 1312. Carryover of disallowed losses and deductions under at-risk rules allowed.
Sec. 1313. Adjustments to basis of inherited S stock to reflect certain items of income.
Sec. 1314. S corporations eligible for rules applicable to real property subdivided for sale by noncorporate taxpayers.
Sec. 1315. Financial institutions.
Sec. 1316. Certain exempt organizations allowed to be shareholders.
Sec. 1317. Effective date.

Subtitle D—Pension Simplification

CHAPTER 1—SIMPLIFIED DISTRIBUTION RULES

Sec. 1401. Repeal of 5-year income averaging for lump-sum distributions.

Sec. 1402. Repeal of $5,000 exclusion of employees' death benefits.
Sec. 1403. Simplified method for taxing annuity distributions under certain employer plans.
Sec. 1404. Required distributions.
CHAPTER 2—INCREASED ACCESS TO RETIREMENT PLANS
SUBCHAPTER A—SIMPLE SAVINGS PLANS
Sec. 1421. Establishment of savings incentive match plans for employees of small employers.
Sec. 1422. Extension of simple plan to 401(k) arrangements.
SUBCHAPTER B—OTHER PROVISIONS
Sec. 1426. Tax-exempt organizations eligible under section 401(k).
Sec. 1427. Homemakers eligible for full IRA deduction.
CHAPTER 3—NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS
Sec. 1431. Definition of highly compensated employees; repeal of family aggregation.
Sec. 1432. Modification of additional participation requirements.
Sec. 1433. Nondiscrimination rules for qualified cash or deferred arrangements and matching contributions.
Sec. 1434. Definition of compensation for section 415 purposes.
CHAPTER 4—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
Sec. 1441. Plans covering self-employed individuals.
Sec. 1442. Elimination of special vesting rule for multiemployer plans.
Sec. 1443. Distributions under rural cooperative plans.
Sec. 1444. Treatment of governmental plans under section 415.
Sec. 1445. Uniform retirement age.
Sec. 1446. Contributions on behalf of disabled employees.
Sec. 1447. Treatment of deferred compensation plans of State and local governments and tax-exempt organizations.
Sec. 1448. Trust requirement for deferred compensation plans of State and local governments.
Sec. 1449. Transition rule for computing maximum benefits under section 415 limitations.
Sec. 1450. Modifications of section 403(b).
Sec. 1451. Special rules relating to joint and survivor annuity explanations.
Sec. 1452. Repeal of limitation in case of defined benefit plan and defined contribution plan for same employee; excess distributions.
Sec. 1453. Tax on prohibited transactions.
Sec. 1454. Treatment of leased employees.
Sec. 1455. Uniform penalty provisions to apply to certain pension reporting requirements.
Sec. 1456. Retirement benefits of ministers not subject to tax on net earnings from self-employment.
Sec. 1457. Sample language for spousal consent and qualified domestic relations forms.
Sec. 1458. Treatment of length of service awards to volunteers performing fire fighting or prevention services, emergency medical services, or ambulance services.
Sec. 1459. Alternative nondiscrimination rules for certain plans that provide for early participation.
Sec. 1460. Clarification of application of ERISA to insurance company general accounts.
Sec. 1461. Special rules for chaplains and self-employed ministers.
Sec. 1462. Definition of highly compensated employee for pre-ERISA rules for church plans.
Sec. 1463. Rule relating to investment in contract not to apply to foreign missionaries.
Sec. 1464. Waiver of excise tax on failure to pay liquidity shortfall.
Sec. 1465. Date for adoption of plan amendments.
Subtitle E—Foreign Simplification
Sec. 1501. Repeal of inclusion of certain earnings invested in excess passive assets.
Subtitle F—Revenue Offsets
PART I—GENERAL PROVISIONS
Sec. 1601. Modifications of Puerto Rico and possession tax credit.
Sec. 1602. Repeal of exclusion for interest on loans used to acquire employer securities.
Sec. 1603. Certain amounts derived from foreign corporations treated as unrelated business taxable income.
Sec. 1604. Depreciation under income forecast method.
Sec. 1605. Repeal of exclusion for punitive damages and for damages not attributable to physical injuries or sickness.
Sec. 1606. Repeal of diesel fuel tax rebate to purchasers of diesel-powered automobiles and light trucks.
Sec. 1607. Extension and phasedown of luxury passenger automobile tax.
Sec. 1608. Termination of future tax-exempt bond financing for local furnishers of electricity and gas.
Sec. 1609. Extension of Airport and Airway Trust Fund excise taxes.
Sec. 1610. Basis adjustment to property held by corporation where stock in corporation is replacement property under involuntary conversion rules.
Sec. 1611. Treatment of certain insurance contracts on retired lives.
Sec. 1612. Treatment of modified guaranteed contracts.
Sec. 1613. Treatment of contributions in aid of construction.
Sec. 1614. Election to cease status as qualified scholarship funding corporation.
Sec. 1615. Certain tax benefits denied to individuals failing to provide taxpayer identification numbers.
Sec. 1616. Repeal of bad debt reserve method for thrift savings associations.
Sec. 1617. Exclusion for energy conservation subsidies limited to subsidies with respect to dwelling units.
PART II—FINANCIAL ASSET SECURITIZATION INVESTMENTS
Sec. 1621. Financial Asset Securitization Investment Trusts.
Subtitle G—Technical Corrections
Sec. 1701. Coordination with other subtitles.
Sec. 1702. Amendments related to Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990.
Sec. 1703. Amendments related to Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993.
Sec. 1704. Miscellaneous provisions.
Subtitle H—Other Provisions
Sec. 1801. Exemption from diesel fuel dyeing requirements with respect to certain States.
Sec. 1802. Treatment of certain university accounts.
Sec. 1803. Modifications to excise tax on ozone-depleting chemicals.
Sec. 1804. Tax-exempt bonds for sale of Alaska Power Administration facility.
Sec. 1805. Nonrecognition treatment for certain transfers by common trust funds to regulated investment companies.
Sec. 1806. Qualified State tuition programs.
Sec. 1807. Adoption assistance.
Sec. 1808. Removal of barriers to interethnic adoption.
Sec. 1809. 6-month delay of electronic fund transfer requirement.
Subtitle I—Foreign Trust Tax Compliance
Sec. 1901. Improved information reporting on foreign trusts.
Sec. 1902. Comparable penalties for failure to file return relating to transfers to foreign entities.
Sec. 1903. Modifications of rules relating to foreign trusts having one or more United States beneficiaries.
Sec. 1904. Foreign persons not to be treated as owners under grantor trust rules.
Sec. 1905. Information reporting regarding foreign gifts.
Sec. 1906. Modification of rules relating to foreign trusts which are not grantor trusts.
Sec. 1907. Residence of trusts, etc.
Subtitle J—Generalized System of Preferences
Sec. 1951. Short title.
Sec. 1952. Generalized System of Preferences.
Sec. 1953. Effective date.
Sec. 1954. Conforming amendments.
TITLE II—PAYMENT OF WAGES
Sec. 2101. Short title.
Sec. 2102. Proper compensation for use of employer vehicles.
Sec. 2103. Effective date.
Sec. 2104. Minimum wage increase.
Sec. 2105. Fair Labor Standards Act Amendments.

TITLE I—SMALL BUSINESS AND OTHER TAX PROVISIONS

SEC. 1101. AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 1102. UNDERPAYMENTS OF ESTIMATED TAX.

No addition to the tax shall be made under section 6654 or 6655 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to failure to pay estimated tax) with respect to any underpayment of an installment required to be paid before the date of the enactment of this Act to the extent such underpayment was created or increased by any provision of this title.

Subtitle A—Expensing; Etc.

SEC. 1111. INCREASE IN EXPENSE TREATMENT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Paragraph (1) of section 179(b) (relating to dollar limitation) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—The aggregate cost which may be taken into account under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed the following applicable amount:

''If the taxable year begins in:	***The applicable amount is:***
1997	*18,000*
1998	*18,500*
1999	*19,000*
2000	*20,000*
2001 or 2002	*24,000*
2003 or thereafter	*25,000.''.*

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1112. TREATMENT OF EMPLOYEE TIPS.

(a) EMPLOYEE CASH TIPS.—

(1) REPORTING REQUIREMENT NOT CONSIDERED.—Subparagraph (A) of section 45B(b)(1) (relating to excess employer social security tax) is amended by inserting ''(without regard to whether such tips are reported under section 6053)'' after ''section 3121(q)''.

(2) TAXES PAID.—Subsection (d) of section 13443 of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993

is amended by inserting '', with respect to services performed before, on, or after such date'' after ''1993''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by, and the provisions of, section 13443 of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993.

(b) TIPS FOR EMPLOYEES DELIVERING FOOD OR BEVERAGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 45B(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) ONLY TIPS RECEIVED FOR FOOD OR BEVERAGES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—In applying paragraph (1), there shall be taken into account only tips received from customers in connection with the providing, delivering, or serving of food or beverages for consumption if the tipping of employees delivering or serving food or beverages by customers is customary.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to tips received for services performed after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1113. TREATMENT OF STORAGE OF PRODUCT SAMPLES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 280A(c) is amended by striking ''inventory'' and inserting ''inventory or product samples''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

SEC. 1114. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN CHARITABLE RISK POOLS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Section 501 (relating to exemption from tax on corporations, certain trusts, etc.) is amended by redesignating subsection (n) as subsection (o) and by inserting after subsection (m) the following new subsection:

''(n) CHARITABLE RISK POOLS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title—

''(A) a qualified charitable risk pool shall be treated as an organization organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes, and

''(B) subsection (m) shall not apply to a qualified charitable risk pool.

''(2) QUALIFIED CHARITABLE RISK POOL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'qualified charitable risk pool' means any organization—

''(A) which is organized and operated solely to pool insurable risks of its members (other than risks related to medical malpractice) and to provide information to its members with respect to loss control and risk management,

''(B) which is comprised solely of members that are organizations described in subsection (c)(3) and exempt from tax under subsection (a), and

''(C) which meets the organizational requirements of paragraph (3).

''(3) ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—An organization (hereinafter in this subsection referred to as the 'risk pool') meets the organizational requirements of this paragraph if—

''(A) such risk pool is organized as a nonprofit organization under State law provisions authorizing risk pooling arrangements for charitable organizations,

''(B) such risk pool is exempt from any income tax imposed by the State (or will be so exempt after such pool qualifies as an organization exempt from tax under this title),

''(C) such risk pool has obtained at least $1,000,000 in startup capital from nonmember charitable organizations,

''(D) such risk pool is controlled by a board of directors elected by its members, and

''(E) the organizational documents of such risk pool require that—

''(i) each member of such pool shall at all times be an organization described in subsection (c)(3) and exempt from tax under subsection (a),

''(ii) any member which receives a final determination that it no longer qualifies as an organization described in subsection (c)(3) shall immediately notify the pool of such determination and the effective date of such determination, and

''(iii) each policy of insurance issued by the risk pool shall provide that such policy will not cover the insured with respect to events occurring after the date such final determination was issued to the insured.

An organization shall not cease to qualify as a qualified charitable risk pool solely by reason of the failure of any of its members to continue to be an organization described in subsection (c)(3) if, within a reasonable period of time after such pool is notified as required under subparagraph (C)(ii), such pool takes such action as may be reasonably necessary to remove such member from such pool.

''(4) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) STARTUP CAPITAL.—The term 'startup capital' means any capital contributed to, and any program-related investments (within the meaning of section 4944(c)) made in, the risk pool before such pool commences operations.

''(B) NONMEMBER CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION.—The term 'nonmember charitable organization' means any organization which is described in subsection (c)(3) and exempt from tax under subsection (a) and which is not a member of the risk pool and does not benefit (directly or indirectly) from the insurance coverage provided by the pool to its members.''

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1115. TREATMENT OF DUES PAID TO AGRICULTURAL OR HORTICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Section 512 (defining unrelated business taxable income) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) TREATMENT OF DUES OF AGRICULTURAL OR HORTICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If—

''(A) an agricultural or horticultural organization described in section 501(c)(5) requires annual dues to be paid in order to be a member of such organization, and

''(B) the amount of such required annual dues does not exceed $100,

in no event shall any portion of such dues be treated as derived by such organization from an unrelated trade or business by reason of any benefits or privileges to which members of such organization are entitled.

''(2) INDEXATION OF $100 AMOUNT.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in a calendar year after 1995, the $100 amount in paragraph (1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

''(A) $100, multiplied by

''(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting 'calendar year 1994' for 'calendar year 1992' in subparagraph (B) thereof.

''(3) DUES.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'dues' means any payment (whether or not designated as dues) which is required to be made in order to be recognized by the organization as a member of the organization.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986.

(2) TRANSITIONAL RULE.—If—

(A) for purposes of applying part III of subchapter F of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to any taxable year beginning before January 1, 1987, an agricultural or horticultural organization did not treat any portion of membership dues received by it as income derived in an unrelated trade or business, and

(B) such organization had a reasonable basis for not treating such dues as income derived in an unrelated trade or business,

then, for purposes of applying such part III to any such taxable year, in no event shall any portion of such dues be treated as derived in an unrelated trade or business.

(3) REASONABLE BASIS.—For purposes of paragraph (2), an organization shall be treated as having a reasonable basis for not treating membership dues as income derived in an unrelated trade or business if the taxpayer's treatment of such dues was in reasonable reliance on any of the following:

(A) Judicial precedent, published rulings, technical advice with respect to the organization, or a letter ruling to the organization.

(B) A past Internal Revenue Service audit of the organization in which there was no assessment attributable to the reclassification of membership dues for purposes of the tax on unrelated business income.

(C) Long-standing recognized practice of agricultural or horticultural organizations.

SEC. 1116. CLARIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT TAX STATUS OF CERTAIN FISHERMEN.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT TAX STATUS.—

(1) AMENDMENTS OF INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—

(A) DETERMINATION OF SIZE OF CREW.—Subsection (b) of section 3121 (defining employment) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

''For purposes of paragraph (20), the operating crew of a boat shall be treated as normally made up of fewer than 10 individuals if the average size of the operating crew on trips made during the preceding 4 calendar quarters consisted of fewer than 10 individuals.''.

(B) CERTAIN CASH REMUNERATION PERMITTED.—Subparagraph (A) of section 3121(b)(20) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) such individual does not receive any cash remuneration other than as provided in subparagraph (B) and other than cash remuneration—

''(i) which does not exceed $100 per trip;

''(ii) which is contingent on a minimum catch; and

''(iii) which is paid solely for additional duties (such as mate, engineer, or cook) for which additional cash remuneration is traditional in the industry,''.

(C) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6050A(a) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting ''; and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) any cash remuneration described in section 3121(b)(20)(A).''.

(2) AMENDMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—

(A) DETERMINATION OF SIZE OF CREW.—Subsection (a) of section 210 of the Social Security Act is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

''For purposes of paragraph (20), the operating crew of a boat shall be treated as normally made up of fewer than 10 individuals if the average size of the operating crew on trips made during the preceding 4 calendar quarters consisted of fewer than 10 individuals.''.

(B) CERTAIN CASH REMUNERATION PERMITTED.—Subparagraph (A) of section 210(a)(20) of such Act is amended to read as follows:

''(A) such individual does not receive any additional compensation other than as provided in subparagraph (B) and other than cash remuneration—

''(i) which does not exceed $100 per trip;

''(ii) which is contingent on a minimum catch; and

''(iii) which is paid solely for additional duties (such as mate, engineer, or cook) for which additional cash remuneration is traditional in the industry,''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to remuneration paid—

(i) after December 31, 1994, and

(ii) after December 31, 1984, and before January 1, 1995, unless the payor treated such remuneration (when paid) as being subject to tax

under chapter 21 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(B) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The amendment made by paragraph (1)(C) shall apply to remuneration paid after December 31, 1996.

(b) INFORMATION REPORTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 68 (relating to information concerning transactions with other persons) is amended by inserting after section 6050Q the following new section:

"SEC. 6050R. RETURNS RELATING TO CERTAIN PURCHASES OF FISH.

''(a) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING.—Every person—

''(1) who is engaged in the trade or business of purchasing fish for resale from any person engaged in the trade or business of catching fish; and

''(2) who makes payments in cash in the course of such trade or business to such a person of $600 or more during any calendar year for the purchase of fish,

shall make a return (at such times as the Secretary may prescribe) described in subsection (b) with respect to each person to whom such a payment was made during such calendar year.

''(b) RETURN.—A return is described in this subsection if such return—

''(1) is in such form as the Secretary may prescribe, and

''(2) contains—

''(A) the name, address, and TIN of each person to whom a payment described in subsection (a)(2) was made during the calendar year;

''(B) the aggregate amount of such payments made to such person during such calendar year and the date and amount of each such payment, and

''(C) such other information as the Secretary may require.

''(c) STATEMENT TO BE FURNISHED WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.—Every person required to make a return under subsection (a) shall furnish to each person whose name is required to be set forth in such return a written statement showing—

''(1) the name and address of the person required to make such a return, and

''(2) the aggregate amount of payments to the person required to be shown on the return.

The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished to the person on or before January 31 of the year following the calendar year for which the return under subsection (a) is required to be made.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

''(1) CASH.—The term 'cash' has the meaning given such term by section 6050I(d).

''(2) FISH.—The term 'fish' includes other forms of aquatic life.''.

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (A) of section 6724(d)(1) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (vi), by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (vii) and inserting ''or'', and by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(viii) section 6050R (relating to returns relating to certain purchases of fish), and''.

(B) Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d) is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (R) through (U) as subparagraphs (S) through (V), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (Q) the following new subparagraph:

''(R) section 6050R(c) (relating to returns relating to certain purchases of fish),''.

(C) The table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by inserting after the item relating to 6050Q the following new item:

''Sec. 6050R. Returns relating to certain purchases of fish.''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to payments made after December 31, 1997.

SEC. 1117. MODIFICATIONS OF TAX-EXEMPT BOND RULES FOR FIRST-TIME FARMERS.

(a) ACQUISITION FROM RELATED PERSON ALLOWED.—Section 147(c)(2) (relating to exception for first-time farmers) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) ACQUISITION FROM RELATED PERSON.—For purposes of this paragraph and section 144(a), the acquisition by a first-time farmer of land or personal property from a related person (within the meaning of section 144(a)(3)) shall not be treated as an acquisition from a related person, if—

''(i) the acquisition price is for the fair market value of such land or property, and

''(ii) subsequent to such acquisition, the related person does not have a financial interest in the farming operation with respect to which the bond proceeds are to be used.''.

(b) SUBSTANTIAL FARMLAND AMOUNT DOUBLED.—Clause (i) of section 147(c)(2)(E) (defining substantial farmland) is amended by striking ''15 percent'' and inserting ''30 percent''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to bonds issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1118. NEWSPAPER DISTRIBUTORS TREATED AS DIRECT SELLERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3508(b)(2)(A) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (i), by inserting ''or'' at the end of clause (ii), and by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

''(iii) is engaged in the trade or business of the delivering or distribution of newspapers or shopping news (including any services directly related to such trade or business),''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to services performed after December 31, 1995.

SEC. 1119. APPLICATION OF INVOLUNTARY CONVERSION RULES TO PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED DISASTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1033(h) is amended by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively, and by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

''(2) TRADE OR BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT PROPERTY.—If a taxpayer's property held for productive use in a trade or business or for investment is compulsorily or involuntarily converted as a result of a Presidentially declared disaster, tangible property of a type held for productive use in a trade or business shall be treated for purposes of subsection (a) as property similar or related in service or use to the property so converted.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1033(h) is amended—

(1) by striking ''residence'' in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by subsection (a)) and inserting ''property'',

(2) by striking ''PRINCIPAL RESIDENCES'' in the heading and inserting ''PROPERTY'', and

(3) by striking ''(1) IN GENERAL.—'' and inserting ''(1) PRINCIPAL RESIDENCES.—''.

(c) EXPANSION OF OKLAHOMA CITY ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY.—Notwithstanding sections 1391 and 1392(a)(3)(D) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the boundaries of the enterprise community for Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, designated by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on December 21, 1994, may be extended with respect to census tracts located in the area damaged due to the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, primarily in the area bounded on the south by Robert S. Kerr Avenue, on the north by North 13th Street, on the east by Oklahoma Avenue, and on the west by Shartel Avenue.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to disasters declared after December 31, 1994, in taxable years ending after such date.

(2) SUBSECTION (c).—Subsection (c) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1120. CLASS LIFE FOR GAS STATION CONVENIENCE STORES AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(e)(3)(E) (classifying certain property as 15-year property) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (i), by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iii) any section 1250 property which is a retail motor fuels outlet (whether or not food or other convenience items are sold at the outlet).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 168(g)(3) is amended by inserting after the item relating to subparagraph (E)(ii) in the table contained therein the following new item:

''(E)(iii) ..... 20''

(c)EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property which is placed in service on or after the date of the enactment of this Act and to which section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 applies after the amendment made by section 201 of the Tax Reform Act of 1986. A taxpayer may elect (in such form and manner as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe) to have such amendments apply with respect to any property placed in service before such date and to which such section so applies.

SEC. 1121 TREATMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF LESSOR IMPROVEMENTS AT TERMINATION OF LEASE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 168(i) is amended to read as follows:

''(8) TREATMENT OF LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any building erected (or improvements made) on leased property, if such building or improvement is property to which this section applies, the depreciation deduction shall be determined under the provisions of this section.

''(B) TREATMENT OF LESSOR IMPROVEMENTS WHICH ARE ABANDONED AT TERMINATION OF LEASE.—An improvement—

''(i) which is made by the lessor of leased property for the lessee of such property, and

''(ii) which is irrevocably disposed of or abandoned by the lessor at the termination of the lease by such lessee,

shall be treated for purposes of determining gain or loss under this title as disposed of by the lessor when so disposed of or abandoned.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subparagraph (B) of section 168(i)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by the amendment made by subsection (a), shall apply to improvements disposed of or abandoned after June 12, 1996.

SEC. 1122. SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO DETERMINATION WHETHER INDIVIDUALS ARE EMPLOYEES FOR PURPOSES OF EMPLOYMENT TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) SPECIAL RULES FOR APPLICATION OF SECTION.—

''(1) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF SECTION.—An officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service shall, before or at the commencement of any audit inquiry relating to the employment status of one or more individuals who perform services for the taxpayer, provide the taxpayer with a written notice of the provisions of this section.

''(2) RULES RELATING TO STATUTORY STANDARDS.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2)—

''(A) a taxpayer may not rely on an audit commenced after December 31, 1996, for purposes of subparagraph (B) thereof unless such audit included an examination for employment tax purposes of whether the individual involved (or any individual holding a position substantially similar to the position held by the individual involved) should be treated as an employee of the taxpayer,

''(B) in no event shall the significant segment requirement of subparagraph (C) thereof be construed to require a reasonable showing of the practice of more than 25 percent of the industry (determined by not taking into account the taxpayer), and

''(C) in applying the long-standing recognized practice requirement of subparagraph (C) thereof—

''(i) such requirement shall not be construed as requiring the practice to have continued for more than 10 years, and

''(ii) a practice shall not fail to be treated as long-standing merely because such practice began after 1978.

''(3) AVAILABILITY OF SAFE HARBORS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide that subsection (a) only applies where the individual involved is otherwise an employee of the taxpayer.

''(4) BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If—

''(i) a taxpayer establishes a prima facie case that it was reasonable not to treat an individual as an employee for purposes of this section, and

''(ii) the taxpayer has fully cooperated with reasonable requests from the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate,

then the burden of proof with respect to such treatment shall be on the Secretary.

''(B) EXCEPTION FOR OTHER REASONABLE BASIS.—In the case of any issue involving whether the taxpayer had a reasonable basis not to treat an individual as an employee for purposes of this section, subparagraph (A) shall only apply for purposes of determining whether the taxpayer meets the requirements of subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (a)(2).

''(5) PRESERVATION OF PRIOR PERIOD SAFE HARBOR.—If—

''(A) an individual would (but for the treatment referred to in subparagraph (B)) be deemed not to be an employee of the taxpayer under subsection (a) for any prior period, and

''(B) such individual is treated by the taxpayer as an employee for employment tax purposes for any subsequent period,

then, for purposes of applying such taxes for such prior period with respect to the taxpayer, the individual shall be deemed not to be an employee.

''(6) SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR POSITION.—For purposes of this section, the determination as to whether an individual holds a position substantially similar to a position held by another individual shall include consideration of the relationship between the taxpayer and such individuals.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to periods after December 31, 1996.

(2) NOTICE BY INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.—Section 530(e)(1) of the Revenue Act of 1978 (as added by subsection (a)) shall apply to audits which commence after December 31, 1996.

(3) BURDEN OF PROOF.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 530(e)(4) of the Revenue Act of 1978 (as added by subsection (a)) shall apply to disputes involving periods after December 31, 1996.

(B) NO INFERENCE.—Nothing in the amendments made by this section shall be construed to infer the proper treatment of the burden of proof with respect to disputes involving periods before January 1, 1997.

SEC. 1123. TREATMENT OF HOUSING PROVIDED TO EMPLOYEES BY ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of section 119(d) (relating to lodging furnished by certain educational institutions to employees) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, ETC.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'educational institution' means—

''(i) an institution described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) (or an entity organized under State law and composed of public institutions so described), or

''(ii) an academic health center.

''(B) ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'academic health center' means an entity—

''(i) which is described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii),

''(ii) which receives (during the calendar year in which the taxable year of the taxpayer begins) payments under subsection (d)(5)(B) or (h) of section 1886 of the Social Security Act (relating to graduate medical education), and

''(iii) which has as one of its principal purposes or functions the providing and teaching of basic and clinical medical science and research with the entity's own faculty.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Subtitle B—Extension of Certain Expiring Provisions

SEC. 1201. WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT.

(a) AMOUNT OF CREDIT.—Subsection (a) of section 51 (relating to amount of credit) is amended by striking ''40 percent'' and inserting ''35 percent''.

(b) MEMBERS OF TARGETED GROUPS.—Subsection (d) of section 51 is amended to read as follows:

''(d) MEMBERS OF TARGETED GROUPS.—For purposes of this subpart—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An individual is a member of a targeted group if such individual is—

''(A) a qualified IV–A recipient,

''(B) a qualified veteran,

''(C) a qualified ex-felon,

''(D) a high-risk youth,

''(E) a vocational rehabilitation referral,

''(F) a qualified summer youth employee, or

''(G) a qualified food stamp recipient.

''(2) QUALIFIED IV–A RECIPIENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified IV–A recipient' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency as being a member of a family receiving assistance under a IV–A program for at least a 9-month period ending during the 9-month period ending on the hiring date.

''(B) IV–A PROGRAM.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'IV–A program' means any program providing assistance under a State plan approved under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (relating to assistance for needy families with minor children) and any successor of such program.

''(3) QUALIFIED VETERAN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified veteran' means any veteran who is certified by the designated local agency as being—

''(i) a member of a family receiving assistance under a IV–A program (as defined in paragraph (2)(B)) for at least a 9-month period ending during the 12-month period ending on the hiring date, or

''(ii) a member of a family receiving assistance under a food stamp program under the Food Stamp Act of 1977 for at least a 3-month period ending during the 12-month period ending on the hiring date.

''(B) VETERAN.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'veteran' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency as—

''(i)(I) having served on active duty (other than active duty for training) in the Armed Forces of the United States for a period of more than 180 days, or

''(II) having been discharged or released from active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for a service-connected disability, and

''(ii) not having any day during the 60-day period ending on the hiring date which was a day of extended active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.

For purposes of clause (ii), the term 'extended active duty' means a period of more than 90 days during which the individual was on active duty (other than active duty for training).

''(4) QUALIFIED EX-FELON.—The term 'qualified ex-felon' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency—

''(A) as having been convicted of a felony under any statute of the United States or any State,

''(B) as having a hiring date which is not more than 1 year after the last date on which such individual was so convicted or was released from prison, and

''(C) as being a member of a family which had an income during the 6 months immediately preceding the earlier of the month in which such income determination occurs or the month in which the hiring date occurs, which, on an annual basis, would be 70 percent or less of the Bureau of Labor Statistics lower living standard.

Any determination under subparagraph (C) shall be valid for the 45-day period beginning on the date such determination is made.

''(5) HIGH-RISK YOUTH.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'high-risk youth' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency—

''(i) as having attained age 18 but not age 25 on the hiring date, and

''(ii) as having his principal place of abode within an empowerment zone or enterprise community.

''(B) YOUTH MUST CONTINUE TO RESIDE IN ZONE.—In the case of a high-risk youth, the term 'qualified wages' shall not include wages paid or incurred for services performed while such youth's principal place of abode is outside an empowerment zone or enterprise community.

''(6) VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION REFERRAL.—The term 'vocational rehabilitation referral' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency as—

''(A) having a physical or mental disability which, for such individual, constitutes or results in a substantial handicap to employment, and

''(B) having been referred to the employer upon completion of (or while receiving) rehabilitative services pursuant to—

''(i) an individualized written rehabilitation plan under a State plan for vocational rehabilitation services approved under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or

''(ii) a program of vocational rehabilitation carried out under chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code.

''(7) QUALIFIED SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified summer youth employee' means any individual—

''(i) who performs services for the employer between May 1 and September 15,

''(ii) who is certified by the designated local agency as having attained age 16 but not 18 on the hiring date (or if later, on May 1 of the calendar year involved),

''(iii) who has not been an employee of the employer during any period prior to the 90-day period described in subparagraph (B)(i), and

''(iv) who is certified by the designated local agency as having his principal place of abode within an empowerment zone or enterprise community.

''(B) SPECIAL RULES FOR DETERMINING AMOUNT OF CREDIT.—For purposes of applying this subpart to wages paid or incurred to any qualified summer youth employee—

''(i) subsection (b)(2) shall be applied by substituting 'any 90-day period between May 1 and September 15' for 'the 1-year period beginning with the day the individual begins work for the employer', and

''(ii) subsection (b)(3) shall be applied by substituting '$3,000' for '$6,000'.

The preceding sentence shall not apply to an individual who, with respect to the same employer, is certified as a member of another targeted group after such individual has been a qualified summer youth employee.

''(C) YOUTH MUST CONTINUE TO RESIDE IN ZONE.—Paragraph (5)(B) shall apply for purposes of subparagraph (A)(iv).

''(8) QUALIFIED FOOD STAMP RECIPIENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified food stamp recipient' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency—

''(i) as having attained age 18 but not age 25 on the hiring date, and

''(ii) as being a member of a family—

''(I) receiving assistance under a food stamp program under the Food Stamp Act of 1977 for the 6-month period ending on the hiring date, or

''(II) receiving such assistance for at least 3 months of the 5-month period ending on the hiring date, in the case of a member of a family who ceases to be eligible for such assistance under section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977.

''(B) PARTICIPATION INFORMATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Agriculture shall enter into an agreement to provide information to designated local agencies with respect to participation in the food stamp program.

''(9) HIRING DATE.—The term 'hiring date' means the day the individual is hired by the employer.

''(10) DESIGNATED LOCAL AGENCY.—The term 'designated local agency' means a State employment security agency established in accordance with the Act of June 6, 1933, as amended (29 U.S.C. 49–49n).

''(11) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTIFICATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An individual shall not be treated as a member of a targeted group unless—

''(i) on or before the day on which such individual begins work for the employer, the employer has received a certification from a designated local agency that such individual is a member of a targeted group, or

''(ii)(I) on or before the day the individual is offered employment with the employer, a prescreening notice is completed by the employer with respect to such individual, and

''(II) not later than the 21st day after the individual begins work for the employer, the employer submits such notice, signed by the employer and the individual under penalties of perjury, to the designated local agency as part of a written request for such a certification from such agency.

For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'prescreening notice' means a document (in such form as the Secretary shall prescribe) which contains information provided by the individual on the basis of which the employer believes that the individual is a member of a targeted group.

''(B) INCORRECT CERTIFICATIONS.—If—

''(i) an individual has been certified by a designated local agency as a member of a targeted group, and

''(ii) such certification is incorrect because it was based on false information provided by such individual,

the certification shall be revoked and wages paid by the employer after the date on which notice of revocation is received by the employer shall not be treated as qualified wages.

''(C) EXPLANATION OF DENIAL OF REQUEST.—If a designated local agency denies a request for certification of membership in a targeted group, such agency shall provide to the person making such request a written explanation of the reasons for such denial.''.

(c) MINIMUM EMPLOYMENT PERIOD.—Paragraph (3) of section 51(i) (relating to certain individuals ineligible) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) INDIVIDUALS NOT MEETING MINIMUM EMPLOYMENT PERIOD.—No wages shall be taken into account under subsection (a) with respect to any individual unless such individual either—

''(A) is employed by the employer at least 180 days (20 days in the case of a qualified summer youth employee), or

''(B) has completed at least 400 hours (120 hours in the case of a qualified summer youth employee) of services performed for the employer.''.

(d) TERMINATION.—Paragraph (4) of section 51(c) (relating to wages defined) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) TERMINATION.—The term 'wages' shall not include any amount paid or incurred to an individual who begins work for the employer—

''(A) after December 31, 1994, and before October 1, 1996, or

''(B) after September 30, 1997.''.

(e) REDESIGNATION OF CREDIT.—

(1) Sections 38(b)(2), 41(b)(2)(D)(iii), 45A(b)(1)(B), 51 (a) and (g), and 196(c) are each amended in the text by striking ''targeted jobs credit'' each place it appears and inserting ''work opportunity credit''.

(2) The subpart heading for subpart F of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking ''**Targeted Jobs Credit**'' and inserting ''**Work Opportunity Credit**''.

(3) The table of subparts for such part IV is amended by striking ''targeted jobs credit'' and inserting ''work opportunity credit''.

(4) The headings for sections 41(b)(2)(D)(iii) and 1396(c)(3) are each amended by striking ''TARGETED JOBS CREDIT'' and inserting ''WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT''.

(5) The heading for subsection (j) of section 51 is amended by striking ''TARGETED JOBS CREDIT'' and inserting ''WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT''.

(f) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of section 51(c) is amended by striking '', subsection (d)(8)(D),''.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for the employer after September 30, 1996.

SEC. 1202. EMPLOYER-PROVIDED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) EXTENSION.—Subsection (d) of section 127 (relating to educational assistance programs) is amended by striking ''December 31, 1994.'' and inserting ''May 31, 1997. In the case of any taxable year beginning in 1997, only expenses paid with respect to courses beginning before July 1, 1997, shall be taken into account in determining the amount excluded under this section.''.

(b) LIMITATION TO EDUCATION BELOW GRADUATE LEVEL.—The last sentence of section 127(c)(1) is amended by inserting before the period the following: '', and such term also does not include any payment for, or the provision of any benefits with respect to, any graduate level course of a kind normally taken by an individual pursuing a program leading to a law, business, medical, or other advanced academic or professional degree''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) EXTENSION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1994.

(2) GRADUATE EDUCATION.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall apply with respect to expenses relating to courses beginning after June 30, 1996.

(3) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall establish expedited procedures for the refund of any overpayment of taxes imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which is attributable to amounts excluded from gross income during 1995 or 1996 under section 127 of such Code, including procedures waiving the requirement that an employer obtain an employee's signature where the employer demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that any refund collected by the employer on behalf of the employee will be paid to the employee.

SEC. 1203. FUTA EXEMPTION FOR ALIEN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 3306(c)(1) (defining employment) is amended by striking ''before January 1, 1995,''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to services performed after December 31, 1994.

SEC. 1204. RESEARCH CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (h) of section 41 (relating to credit for research activities) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) TERMINATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—This section shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred—

''(A) after June 30, 1995, and before July 1, 1996, or

''(B) after May 31, 1997.

Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, in the case of a taxpayer making an election under subsection (c)(4) for its first taxable year beginning after June 30, 1996, and before July 1, 1997, this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred during the first 11 months of such taxable year.

''(2) COMPUTATION OF BASE AMOUNT.—In the case of any taxable year with respect to which this section applies to a number of days which is less than the total number of days in such taxable year, the base amount with respect to such taxable year shall be the amount which bears the same ratio to the base amount for such year (determined without regard to this paragraph) as the number of days in such taxable year to which this section applies bears to the total number of days in such taxable year.''.

(b) BASE AMOUNT FOR START-UP COMPANIES.—Clause (i) of section 41(c)(3)(B) (relating to start-up companies) is amended to read as follows:

''(i) TAXPAYERS TO WHICH SUBPARAGRAPH APPLIES.—The fixed-base percentage shall be determined under this subparagraph if—

''(I) the first taxable year in which a taxpayer had both gross receipts and qualified research expenses begins after December 31, 1983, or

''(II) there are fewer than 3 taxable years beginning after December 31, 1983, and before January 1, 1989, in which the taxpayer had both gross receipts and qualified research expenses.''.

(c) ELECTION OF ALTERNATIVE INCREMENTAL CREDIT.—Subsection (c) of section 41 is amended by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively, and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

''(4) ELECTION OF ALTERNATIVE INCREMENTAL CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At the election of the taxpayer, the credit determined under subsection (a)(1) shall be equal to the sum of—

''(i) 1.65 percent of so much of the qualified research expenses for the taxable year as exceeds 1 percent of the average described in subsection (c)(1)(B) but does not exceed 1.5 percent of such average,

''(ii) 2.2 percent of so much of such expenses as exceeds 1.5 percent of such average but does not exceed 2 percent of such average, and

''(iii) 2.75 percent of so much of such expenses as exceeds 2 percent of such average.

''(B) ELECTION.—An election under this paragraph may be made only for the first taxable year of the taxpayer beginning after June 30, 1996. Such an election shall apply to the taxable year for which made and all succeeding taxable years unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary.''.

(d) INCREASED CREDIT FOR CONTRACT RESEARCH EXPENSES WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN RESEARCH CONSORTIA.—Paragraph (3) of section 41(b) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) AMOUNTS PAID TO CERTAIN RESEARCH CONSORTIA.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting '75 percent' for '65 percent' with respect to amounts paid or incurred by the taxpayer to a qualified research consortium for qualified research on behalf of the taxpayer and 1 or more unrelated taxpayers. For purposes of the preceding sentence, all persons

treated as a single employer under subsection (a) or (b) of section 52 shall be treated as related taxpayers.

''(ii) QUALIFIED RESEARCH CONSORTIUM.—The term 'qualified research consortium' means any organization which—

''(I) is described in section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) and is exempt from tax under section 501(a),

''(II) is organized and operated primarily to conduct scientific research, and

''(III) is not a private foundation.''.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (D) of section 28(b)(1) is amended by inserting '', and before July 1, 1996, and periods after May 31, 1997'' after ''June 30, 1995''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after June 30, 1996.

(2) SUBSECTIONS (c) AND (d).—The amendments made by subsections (c) and (d) shall apply to taxable years beginning after June 30, 1996.

(3) ESTIMATED TAX.—The amendments made by this section shall not be taken into account under section 6654 or 6655 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to failure to pay estimated tax) in determining the amount of any installment required to be paid for a taxable year beginning in 1997.

SEC. 1205. ORPHAN DRUG TAX CREDIT.

(a) RECATEGORIZED AS A BUSINESS CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 28 (relating to clinical testing expenses for certain drugs for rare diseases or conditions) is transferred to subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, inserted after section 45B, and redesignated as section 45C.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 38 (relating to general business credit) is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (11) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(12) the orphan drug credit determined under section 45C(a).''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) The table of sections for subpart B of such part IV is amended by striking the item relating to section 28.

(B) The table of sections for subpart D of such part IV is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 45C. Clinical testing expenses for certain drugs for rare diseases or conditions.''.

(b) CREDIT TERMINATION.—Subsection (e) of section 45C, as redesignated by subsection (a)(1), is amended to read as follows:

''(e) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred—

''(1) after December 31, 1994, and before July 1, 1996, or

''(2) after May 31, 1997.''.

(c) NO PRE-JULY 1, 1996 CARRYBACKS.—Subsection (d) of section 39 (relating to carryback and carryforward of unused credits) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) NO CARRYBACK OF SECTION 45C CREDIT BEFORE JULY 1, 1996.—No portion of the unused business credit for any taxable year which is attributable to the orphan drug credit determined under section 45C may be carried back to a taxable year ending before July 1, 1996.''.

(d) ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 45C(a), as redesignated by subsection (a)(1), is amended by striking ''There shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year'' and inserting ''For purposes of section 38, the credit determined under this section for the taxable year is''.

(2) Section 45C(d), as so redesignated, is amended by striking paragraph (2) and by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4).

(3) Section 29(b)(6)(A) is amended by striking ''sections 27 and 28'' and inserting ''section 27''.

(4) Section 30(b)(3)(A) is amended by striking ''sections 27, 28, and 29'' and inserting ''sections 27 and 29''.

(5) Section 53(d)(1)(B) is amended—

(A) by striking ''or not allowed under section 28 solely by reason of the application of section 28(d)(2)(B),'' in clause (iii), and

(B) by striking ''or not allowed under section 28 solely by reason of the application of section 28(d)(2)(B)'' in clause (iv)(II).

(6) Section 55(c)(2) is amended by striking ''28(d)(2),''.

(7) Section 280C(b) is amended—

(A) by striking ''section 28(b)'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''section 45C(b)'',

(B) by striking ''section 28'' in paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) and inserting ''section 45C'', and

(C) by striking ''subsection (d)(2) thereof'' in paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) and inserting ''section 38(c)''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred in taxable years ending after June 30, 1996.

SEC. 1206. CONTRIBUTIONS OF STOCK TO PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 170(e)(5) (relating to special rule for contributions of stock for which market quotations are readily available) is amended to read as follows:

''(D) TERMINATION.—This paragraph shall not apply to contributions made—

''(i) after December 31, 1994, and before July 1, 1996, or

''(ii) after May 31, 1997.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made after June 30, 1996.

SEC. 1207. EXTENSION OF BINDING CONTRACT DATE FOR BIOMASS AND COAL FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 29(g)(1) (relating to extension of certain facilities) is amended by striking ''January 1, 1997'' and inserting ''July 1, 1998'' and by striking ''January 1, 1996'' and inserting ''January 1, 1997''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1208. MORATORIUM FOR EXCISE TAX ON DIESEL FUEL SOLD FOR USE OR USED IN DIESEL-POWERED MOTORBOATS.

Subparagraph (D) of section 4041(a)(1) (relating to the imposition of tax on diesel fuel and special motor fuels) is amended by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as clauses (ii) and (iii), respectively, and by inserting before clause (ii) (as redesignated) the following new clause:

''(i) no tax shall be imposed by subsection (a) or (d)(1) during the period beginning on the date which is 7 days after the date of the enactment of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 and ending on December 31, 1997,''.

Subtitle C—Provisions Relating to S Corporations

SEC. 1301. S CORPORATIONS PERMITTED TO HAVE 75 SHAREHOLDERS.

Subparagraph (A) of section 1361(b)(1) (defining small business corporation) is amended by striking ''35 shareholders'' and inserting ''75 shareholders''.

SEC. 1302. ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUSTS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1361(c)(2) (relating to certain trusts permitted as shareholders) is amended by inserting after clause (iv) the following new clause:

''(v) An electing small business trust.''.

(b) CURRENT BENEFICIARIES TREATED AS SHAREHOLDERS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 1361(c)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(v) In the case of a trust described in clause (v) of subparagraph (A), each potential current beneficiary of such trust shall be treated as a shareholder; except that, if for any period there is no potential current beneficiary of such trust, such trust shall be treated as the shareholder during such period.''.

(c) ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUST DEFINED.—Section 1361 (defining S corporation) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUST DEFINED.—

''(1) ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUST.—For purposes of this section—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term 'electing small business trust' means any trust if—

''(i) such trust does not have as a beneficiary any person other than (I) an individual, (II) an estate, or (III) an organization described in paragraph (2), (3), (4), or (5) of section 170(c) which holds a contingent interest and is not a potential current beneficiary,

''(ii) no interest in such trust was acquired by purchase, and

''(iii) an election under this subsection applies to such trust.

''(B) CERTAIN TRUSTS NOT ELIGIBLE.—The term 'electing small business trust' shall not include—

''(i) any qualified subchapter S trust (as defined in subsection (d)(3)) if an election under subsection (d)(2) applies to any corporation the stock of which is held by such trust, and

''(ii) any trust exempt from tax under this subtitle.

''(C) PURCHASE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'purchase' means any acquisition if the basis of the property acquired is determined under section 1012.

''(2) POTENTIAL CURRENT BENEFICIARY.—For purposes of this section, the term 'potential current beneficiary' means, with respect to any period, any person who at any time during such period is entitled to, or at the discretion of any person may receive, a distribution from the principal or income of the trust. If a trust disposes of all of the stock which it holds in an S corporation, then, with respect to such corporation, the term 'potential current beneficiary' does not include any person who first met the requirements of the preceding sentence during the 60-day period ending on the date of such disposition.

''(3) ELECTION.—An election under this subsection shall be made by the trustee. Any such election shall apply to the taxable year of the trust for which made and all subsequent taxable years of such trust unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary.

''(4) CROSS REFERENCE.—

''For special treatment of electing small business trusts, see section 641(d).''.

(d) TAXATION OF ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUSTS.—Section 641 (relating to imposition of tax on trusts) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXATION OF ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUSTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this chapter—

''(A) the portion of any electing small business trust which consists of stock in 1 or more S corporations shall be treated as a separate trust, and

''(B) the amount of the tax imposed by this chapter on such separate trust shall be determined with the modifications of paragraph (2).

''(2) MODIFICATIONS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the modifications of this paragraph are the following:

''(A) Except as provided in section 1(h), the amount of the tax imposed by section 1(e) shall be determined by using the highest rate of tax set forth in section 1(e).

''(B) The exemption amount under section 55(d) shall be zero.

''(C) The only items of income, loss, deduction, or credit to be taken into account are the following:

''(i) The items required to be taken into account under section 1366.

''(ii) Any gain or loss from the disposition of stock in an S corporation.

''(iii) To the extent provided in regulations, State or local income taxes or administrative expenses to the extent allocable to items described in clauses (i) and (ii).

No deduction or credit shall be allowed for any amount not described in this paragraph, and no item described in this paragraph shall be apportioned to any beneficiary.

''(D) No amount shall be allowed under paragraph (1) or (2) of section 1211(b).

''(3) TREATMENT OF REMAINDER OF TRUST AND DISTRIBUTIONS.—For purposes of determining—

''(A) the amount of the tax imposed by this chapter on the portion of any electing small business trust not treated as a separate trust under paragraph (1), and

''(B) the distributable net income of the entire trust,

the items referred to in paragraph (2)(C) shall be excluded. Except as provided in the preceding sentence, this subsection shall not affect the taxation of any distribution from the trust.

''(4) TREATMENT OF UNUSED DEDUCTIONS WHERE TERMINATION OF SEPARATE TRUST.—If a portion of an electing small business trust ceases to be treated as a separate trust under paragraph (1), any carryover or excess deduction of the separate trust which is referred to in section 642(h) shall be taken into account by the entire trust.

''(5) ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUST.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'electing small business trust' has the meaning given such term by section 1361(e)(1).''.

(e) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of section 1366(a) is amended by inserting '', or of a trust or estate which terminates,'' after ''who dies''.

SEC. 1303. EXPANSION OF POST-DEATH QUALIFICATION FOR CERTAIN TRUSTS.

Subparagraph (A) of section 1361(c)(2) (relating to certain trusts permitted as shareholders) is amended—

(1) by striking ''60-day period'' each place it appears in clauses (ii) and (iii) and inserting ''2-year period'', and

(2) by striking the last sentence in clause (ii).

SEC. 1304. FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS PERMITTED TO HOLD SAFE HARBOR DEBT.

Clause (iii) of section 1361(c)(5)(B) (defining straight debt) is amended by striking ''or a trust described in paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''a trust described in paragraph (2), or a person which is actively and regularly engaged in the business of lending money''.

SEC. 1305. RULES RELATING TO INADVERTENT TERMINATIONS AND INVALID ELECTIONS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subsection (f) of section 1362 (relating to inadvertent terminations) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) INADVERTENT INVALID ELECTIONS OR TERMINATIONS.—If—

''(1) an election under subsection (a) by any corporation—

''(A) was not effective for the taxable year for which made (determined without regard to subsection (b)(2)) by reason of a failure to meet the requirements of section 1361(b) or to obtain shareholder consents, or

''(B) was terminated under paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (d),

''(2) the Secretary determines that the circumstances resulting in such ineffectiveness or termination were inadvertent,

''(3) no later than a reasonable period of time after discovery of the circumstances resulting in such ineffectiveness or termination, steps were taken—

''(A) so that the corporation is a small business corporation, or

''(B) to acquire the required shareholder consents, and

''(4) the corporation, and each person who was a shareholder in the corporation at any time during the period specified pursuant to this subsection, agrees to make such adjustments (consistent with the treatment of the corporation as an S corporation) as may be required by the Secretary with respect to such period,

then, notwithstanding the circumstances resulting in such ineffectiveness or termination, such corporation shall be treated as an S corporation during the period specified by the Secretary.''.

(b) LATE ELECTIONS, ETC.—Subsection (b) of section 1362 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) AUTHORITY TO TREAT LATE ELECTIONS, ETC., AS TIMELY.—If—

''(A) an election under subsection (a) is made for any taxable year (determined without regard to paragraph (3)) after the date prescribed by this subsection for making such election for such taxable year or no such election is made for any taxable year, and

''(B) the Secretary determines that there was reasonable cause for the failure to timely make such election,

the Secretary may treat such an election as timely made for such taxable year (and paragraph (3) shall not apply).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) and (b) shall apply with respect to elections for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1982.

SEC. 1306. AGREEMENT TO TERMINATE YEAR.

Paragraph (2) of section 1377(a) (relating to pro rata share) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) ELECTION TO TERMINATE YEAR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, if any shareholder terminates the shareholder's interest in the corporation during the taxable year and all affected shareholders and the corporation agree to the application of this paragraph, paragraph (1) shall be applied to the affected shareholders as if the taxable year consisted of 2 taxable years the first of which ends on the date of the termination.

''(B) AFFECTED SHAREHOLDERS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'affected shareholders' means the shareholder whose interest is terminated and all shareholders to whom such shareholder has transferred shares during the taxable year. If such shareholder has transferred shares to the corporation, the term 'affected shareholders' shall include all persons who are shareholders during the taxable year.''.

SEC. 1307. EXPANSION OF POST-TERMINATION TRANSITION PERIOD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 1377(b) (relating to post-termination transition period) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C), and by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

''(B) the 120-day period beginning on the date of any determination pursuant to an audit of the taxpayer which follows the termination of the corporation's election and which adjusts a subchapter S item of income, loss, or deduction of the corporation arising during the S period (as defined in section 1368(e)(2)), and''.

(b) DETERMINATION DEFINED.—Paragraph (2) of section 1377(b) is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B), by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B), and by inserting before subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated) the following new subparagraph:

''(A) a determination as defined in section 1313(a), or''.

(c) REPEAL OF SPECIAL AUDIT PROVISIONS FOR SUBCHAPTER S ITEMS.—

(1) GENERAL RULE.—Subchapter D of chapter 63 (relating to tax treatment of subchapter S items) is hereby repealed.

(2) CONSISTENT TREATMENT REQUIRED.—Section 6037 (relating to return of S corporation) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) SHAREHOLDER'S RETURN MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH CORPORATE RETURN OR SECRETARY NOTIFIED OF INCONSISTENCY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A shareholder of an S corporation shall, on such shareholder's return, treat a subchapter S item in a manner which is consistent with the treatment of such item on the corporate return.

''(2) NOTIFICATION OF INCONSISTENT TREATMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any subchapter S item, if—

''(i)(I) the corporation has filed a return but the shareholder's treatment on his return is (or may be) inconsistent with the treatment of the item on the corporate return, or

''(II) the corporation has not filed a return, and

''(ii) the shareholder files with the Secretary a statement identifying the inconsistency,

paragraph (1) shall not apply to such item.

''(B) SHAREHOLDER RECEIVING INCORRECT INFORMATION.—A shareholder shall be treated as having complied with clause (ii) of subparagraph (A) with respect to a subchapter S item if the shareholder—

''(i) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the treatment of the subchapter S item on the shareholder's return is consistent with the treatment of the item on the schedule furnished to the shareholder by the corporation, and

''(ii) elects to have this paragraph apply with respect to that item.

''(3) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO NOTIFY.—In any case—

''(A) described in subparagraph (A)(i)(I) of paragraph (2), and

''(B) in which the shareholder does not comply with subparagraph (A)(ii) of paragraph (2),

any adjustment required to make the treatment of the items by such shareholder consistent with the treatment of the items on the corporate return shall be treated as arising out of mathematical or clerical errors and assessed according to section 6213(b)(1). Paragraph (2) of section 6213(b) shall not apply to any assessment referred to in the preceding sentence.

''(4) SUBCHAPTER S ITEM.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'subchapter S item' means any item of an S corporation to the extent that regulations prescribed by the Secretary provide that, for purposes of this subtitle, such item is more appropriately determined at the corporation level than at the shareholder level.

''(5) ADDITION TO TAX FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SECTION.—

''For addition to tax in the case of a shareholder's negligence in connection with, or disregard of, the requirements of this section, see part II of subchapter A of chapter 68.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 1366 is amended by striking subsection (g).

(B) Subsection (b) of section 6233 is amended to read as follows:

''(b) SIMILAR RULES IN CERTAIN CASES.—If a partnership return is filed for any taxable year but it is determined that there is no entity for such taxable year, to the extent provided in regulations, rules similar to the rules of subsection (a) shall apply.''.

(C) The table of subchapters for chapter 63 is amended by striking the item relating to subchapter D.

SEC. 1308. S CORPORATIONS PERMITTED TO HOLD SUBSIDIARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 1361(b) (defining ineligible corporation) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and by redesignating subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D), respectively.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN WHOLLY OWNED S CORPORATION SUBSIDIARIES.—Section 1361(b) (defining small business corporation) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title—

''(i) a corporation which is a qualified subchapter S subsidiary shall not be treated as a separate corporation, and

''(ii) all assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of a qualified subchapter S subsidiary shall be treated as assets, liabilities, and such items (as the case may be) of the S corporation.

''(B) QUALIFIED SUBCHAPTER S SUBSIDIARY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'qualified subchapter S subsidiary' means any domestic corporation which is not an ineligible corporation (as defined in paragraph (2)), if—

''(i) 100 percent of the stock of such corporation is held by the S corporation, and

''(ii) the S corporation elects to treat such corporation as a qualified subchapter S subsidiary.

''(C) TREATMENT OF TERMINATIONS OF QUALIFIED SUBCHAPTER S SUBSIDIARY STATUS.—For purposes of this title, if any corporation which was a qualified subchapter S subsidiary ceases to meet the requirements of subparagraph (B), such corporation shall be treated as a new corporation acquiring all of its assets (and assuming all of its liabilities) immediately before such cessation from the S corporation in exchange for its stock.

''(D) ELECTION AFTER TERMINATION.—If a corporation's status as a qualified subchapter S subsidiary terminates, such corporation (and any successor corporation) shall not be eligible to make—

''(i) an election under subparagraph (B)(ii) to be treated as a qualified subchapter S subsidiary, or

''(ii) an election under section 1362(a) to be treated as an S corporation,

before its 5th taxable year which begins after the 1st taxable year for which such termination was effective, unless the Secretary consents to such election.''.

(c) CERTAIN DIVIDENDS NOT TREATED AS PASSIVE INVESTMENT INCOME.—Paragraph (3) of section 1362(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DIVIDENDS.—If an S corporation holds stock in a C corporation meeting the requirements of section 1504(a)(2), the term 'passive investment income' shall not include dividends from such C corporation to the extent such dividends are attributable to the earnings and profits of such C corporation derived from the active conduct of a trade or business.''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (c) of section 1361 is amended by striking paragraph (6).

(2) Subsection (b) of section 1504 (defining includible corporation) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) An S corporation.''.

SEC. 1309. TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS DURING LOSS YEARS.

(a) ADJUSTMENTS FOR DISTRIBUTIONS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE LOSSES.—

(1) Subparagraph (A) of section 1366(d)(1) (relating to losses and deductions cannot exceed shareholder's basis in stock and debt) is amended by striking ''paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (1) and (2)(A)''.

(2) Subsection (d) of section 1368 (relating to certain adjustments taken into account) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

''In the case of any distribution made during any taxable year, the adjusted basis of the stock shall be determined with regard to the adjustments provided in paragraph (1) of section 1367(a) for the taxable year.''.

(b) ACCUMULATED ADJUSTMENTS ACCOUNT.—Paragraph (1) of section 1368(e) (relating to accumulated adjustments account) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) NET LOSS FOR YEAR DISREGARDED.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In applying this section to distributions made during any taxable year, the amount in the accumulated adjustments account as of the close of such taxable year shall be determined without regard to any net negative adjustment for such taxable year.

''(ii) NET NEGATIVE ADJUSTMENT.—For purposes of clause (i), the term 'net negative adjustment' means, with respect to any taxable year, the excess (if any) of—

''(I) the reductions in the account for the taxable year (other than for distributions), over

''(II) the increases in such account for such taxable year.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1368(e)(1) is amended—

(1) by striking ''as provided in subparagraph (B)'' and inserting ''as otherwise provided in this paragraph'', and

(2) by striking ''section 1367(b)(2)(A)'' and inserting ''section 1367(a)(2)''.

SEC. 1310. TREATMENT OF S CORPORATIONS UNDER SUBCHAPTER C.

Subsection (a) of section 1371 (relating to application of subchapter C rules) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) APPLICATION OF SUBCHAPTER C RULES.—Except as otherwise provided in this title, and except to the extent inconsistent with this subchapter, subchapter C shall apply to an S corporation and its shareholders.''.

SEC. 1311. ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN EARNINGS AND PROFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If—

(1) a corporation was an electing small business corporation under subchapter S of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for any taxable year beginning before January 1, 1983, and

(2) such corporation is an S corporation under subchapter S of chapter 1 of such Code for its first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1996,

the amount of such corporation's accumulated earnings and profits (as of the beginning of such first taxable year) shall be reduced by an amount equal to the portion (if any) of such accumulated earnings and profits which were accumulated in any taxable year beginning before January 1, 1983, for which such corporation was an electing small business corporation under such subchapter S.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (3) of section 1362(d), as amended by section 1308, is amended—

(A) by striking ''SUBCHAPTER C'' in the paragraph heading and inserting ''ACCUMULATED'',

(B) by striking ''subchapter C'' in subparagraph (A)(i)(I) and inserting ''accumulated'', and

(C) by striking subparagraph (B) and redesignating the following subparagraphs accordingly.

(2)(A) Subsection (a) of section 1375 is amended by striking ''subchapter C'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''accumulated''.

(B) Paragraph (3) of section 1375(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) PASSIVE INVESTMENT INCOME, ETC.—The terms 'passive investment income' and 'gross receipts' have the same respective meanings as when used in paragraph (3) of section 1362(d).''.

(C) The section heading for section 1375 is amended by striking ''**SUBCHAPTER C**'' and inserting ''**ACCUMULATED**''.

(D) The table of sections for part III of subchapter S of chapter 1 is amended by striking ''subchapter C'' in the item relating to section 1375 and inserting ''accumulated''.

(3) Clause (i) of section 1042(c)(4)(A) is amended by striking ''section 1362(d)(3)(D)'' and inserting ''section 1362(d)(3)(C)''.

SEC. 1312. CARRYOVER OF DISALLOWED LOSSES AND DEDUCTIONS UNDER AT-RISK RULES ALLOWED.

Paragraph (3) of section 1366(d) (relating to carryover of disallowed losses and deductions to post-termination transition period) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D) AT-RISK LIMITATIONS.—To the extent that any increase in adjusted basis described in subparagraph (B) would have increased the shareholder's amount at risk under section 465 if such increase had occurred on the day preceding the commencement of the post-termination transition period, rules similar to the rules described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) shall apply to any losses disallowed by reason of section 465(a).''.

SEC. 1313. ADJUSTMENTS TO BASIS OF INHERITED S STOCK TO REFLECT CERTAIN ITEMS OF INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 1367 (relating to adjustments to basis of stock of shareholders, etc.) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) ADJUSTMENTS IN CASE OF INHERITED STOCK.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If any person acquires stock in an S corporation by reason of the death of a decedent or by bequest, devise, or inheritance, section 691 shall be applied with respect to any item of income of the S corporation in the same manner as if the decedent had held directly his pro rata share of such item.

''(B) ADJUSTMENTS TO BASIS.—The basis determined under section 1014 of any stock in an S corporation shall be reduced by the portion of the value of the stock which is attributable to items constituting income in respect of the decedent.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply in the case of decedents dying after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1314. S CORPORATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR RULES APPLICABLE TO REAL PROPERTY SUBDIVIDED FOR SALE BY NONCORPORATE TAXPAYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 1237 (relating to real property subdivided for sale) is amended by striking ''other than a corporation'' in the material preceding paragraph (1) and inserting ''other than a C corporation''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1237(a)(2) is amended by inserting ''an S corporation which included the taxpayer as a shareholder,'' after ''controlled by the taxpayer,''.

SEC. 1315. FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Subparagraph (A) of section 1361(b)(2) (defining ineligible corporation), as redesignated by section 1308(a), is amended to read as follows:

''(A) a financial institution which uses the reserve method of accounting for bad debts described in section 585,''.

SEC. 1316. CERTAIN EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS ALLOWED TO BE SHAREHOLDERS.

(a) ELIGIBILITY TO BE SHAREHOLDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 1361(b)(1) (defining small business corporation) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) have as a shareholder a person (other than an estate, a trust described in subsection (c)(2), or an organization described in subsection (c)(7)) who is not an individual,''.

(2) ELIGIBLE EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 1361(c) (relating to special rules for applying subsection (b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) CERTAIN EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS PERMITTED AS SHAREHOLDERS.—For purposes of subsection (b)(1)(B), an organization which is—

''(A) described in section 401(a) or 501(c)(3), and

''(B) exempt from taxation under section 501(a),

may be a shareholder in an S corporation.''.

(b) CONTRIBUTIONS OF S CORPORATION STOCK.—Section 170(e)(1) (relating to certain contributions of ordinary income and capital gain property) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''For purposes of

applying this paragraph in the case of a charitable contribution of stock in an S corporation, rules similar to the rules of section 751 shall apply in determining whether gain on such stock would have been long-term capital gain if such stock were sold by the taxpayer.''.

(c) TREATMENT OF INCOME.—Section 512 (relating to unrelated business taxable income), as amended by section 1113, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO S CORPORATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If an organization described in section 1361(c)(7) holds stock in an S corporation—

''(A) such interest shall be treated as an interest in an unrelated trade or business; and

''(B) notwithstanding any other provision of this part—

''(i) all items of income, loss, or deduction taken into account under section 1366(a), and

''(ii) any gain or loss on the disposition of the stock in the S corporation

shall be taken into account in computing the unrelated business taxable income of such organization.

''(2) BASIS REDUCTION.—Except as provided in regulations, for purposes of paragraph (1), the basis of any stock acquired by purchase (within the meaning of section 1012) shall be reduced by the amount of any dividends received by the organization with respect to the stock.''.

(d) CERTAIN BENEFITS NOT APPLICABLE TO S CORPORATIONS.—

(1) CONTRIBUTION TO ESOPS.—Paragraph (9) of section 404(a) (relating to certain contributions to employee ownership plans) is amended by inserting at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) S CORPORATIONS.—This paragraph shall not apply to an S corporation.''.

(2) DIVIDENDS ON EMPLOYER SECURITIES.—Paragraph (1) of section 404(k) (relating to deduction for dividends on certain employer securities) is amended by striking ''a corporation'' and inserting ''a C corporation''.

(3) EXCHANGE TREATMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1042(c)(1) (defining qualified securities) is amended by striking ''domestic corporation'' and inserting ''domestic C corporation''.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Clause (i) of section 1361(e)(1)(A), as added by section 1302, is amended by striking ''which holds a contingent interest and is not a potential current beneficiary''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1997.

SEC. 1317. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the amendments made by this subtitle shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN ELECTIONS UNDER PRIOR LAW.—For purposes of section 1362(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to election after termination), any termination under section 1362(d) of such Code in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 1997, shall not be taken into account.

Subtitle D—Pension Simplification

CHAPTER 1—SIMPLIFIED DISTRIBUTION RULES

SEC. 1401. REPEAL OF 5-YEAR INCOME AVERAGING FOR LUMP-SUM DISTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 402 (relating to taxability of beneficiary of employees' trust) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) TAXABILITY OF BENEFICIARY OF CERTAIN FOREIGN SITUS TRUSTS.—For purposes of subsections (a), (b), and (c), a stock bonus, pension, or profit-sharing trust which would qualify for exemption from tax under section 501(a) except for the fact that it is a trust created or organized outside the United States shall be treated as if it were a trust exempt from tax under section 501(a).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subparagraph (D) of section 402(e)(4) (relating to other rules applicable to exempt trusts) is amended to read as follows:

''(D) LUMP-SUM DISTRIBUTION.—For purposes of this paragraph—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'lump sum distribution' means the distribution or payment within one taxable year of the recipient of the balance to the credit of an employee which becomes payable to the recipient—

''(I) on account of the employee's death,

''(II) after the employee attains age 59½,

''(III) on account of the employee's separation from service, or

''(IV) after the employee has become disabled (within the meaning of section 72(m)(7)),

from a trust which forms a part of a plan described in section 401(a) and which is exempt from tax under section 501 or from a plan described in section 403(a). Subclause (III) of this clause shall be applied only with respect to an individual who is an employee without regard to section 401(c)(1), and subclause (IV) shall be applied only with respect to an employee within the meaning of section 401(c)(1). For purposes of this clause, a distribution to two or more trusts shall be treated as a distribution to one recipient. For purposes of this paragraph, the balance to the credit of the employee does not include the accumulated deductible employee contributions under the plan (within the meaning of section 72(o)(5)).

''(ii) AGGREGATION OF CERTAIN TRUSTS AND PLANS.—For purposes of determining the balance to the credit of an employee under clause (i)—

''(I) all trusts which are part of a plan shall be treated as a single trust, all pension plans maintained by the employer shall be treated as a single plan, all profit-sharing plans maintained by the employer shall be treated as a single plan, and all stock bonus plans maintained by the employer shall be treated as a single plan, and

''(II) trusts which are not qualified trusts under section 401(a) and annuity contracts which do not satisfy the requirements of section 404(a)(2) shall not be taken into account.

''(iii) COMMUNITY PROPERTY LAWS.—The provisions of this paragraph shall be applied without regard to community property laws.

''(iv) AMOUNTS SUBJECT TO PENALTY.—This paragraph shall not apply to amounts described in subparagraph (A) of section 72(m)(5) to the extent that section 72(m)(5) applies to such amounts.

''(v) BALANCE TO CREDIT OF EMPLOYEE NOT TO INCLUDE AMOUNTS PAYABLE UNDER QUALIFIED DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDER.—For purposes of this paragraph, the balance to the credit of an employee shall not include any amount payable to an alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order (within the meaning of section 414(p)).

''(vi) TRANSFERS TO COST-OF-LIVING ARRANGEMENT NOT TREATED AS DISTRIBUTION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the balance to the credit of an employee under a defined contribution plan shall not include any amount transferred from such defined contribution plan to a qualified cost-of-living arrangement (within the meaning of section 415(k)(2)) under a defined benefit plan.

''(vii) LUMP-SUM DISTRIBUTIONS OF ALTERNATE PAYEES.—If any distribution or payment of the balance to the credit of an employee would be treated as a lump-sum distribution, then, for purposes of this paragraph, the payment under a qualified domestic relations order (within the meaning of section 414(p)) of the balance to the credit of an alternate payee who is the spouse or former spouse of the employee shall be treated as a lump-sum distribution. For purposes of this clause, the balance to the credit of the alternate payee shall not include any amount payable to the employee.''.

(2) Section 402(c) (relating to rules applicable to rollovers from exempt trusts) is amended by striking paragraph (10).

(3) Paragraph (1) of section 55(c) (defining regular tax) is amended by striking ''shall not include any tax imposed by section 402(d) and''.

(4) Paragraph (8) of section 62(a) (relating to certain portion of lump-sum distributions from pension plans taxed under section 402(d)) is hereby repealed.

(5) Section 401(a)(28)(B) (relating to coordination with distribution rules) is amended by striking clause (v).

(6) Subparagraph (B)(ii) of section 401(k)(10) (relating to distributions that must be lump-sum distributions) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii) LUMP-SUM DISTRIBUTION.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term 'lump-sum distribution' has the meaning given such term by section 402(e)(4)(D) (without regard to subclauses (I), (II), (III), and (IV) of clause (i) thereof).''.

(7) Section 406(c) (relating to termination of status as deemed employee not to be treated as separation from service for purposes of limitation of tax) is hereby repealed.

(8) Section 407(c) (relating to termination of status as deemed employee not to be treated as separation from service for purposes of limitation of tax) is hereby repealed.

(9) Section 691(c) (relating to deduction for estate tax) is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(10) Paragraph (1) of section 871(b) (relating to imposition of tax) is amended by striking ''section 1, 55, or 402(d)(1)'' and inserting ''section 1 or 55''.

(11) Subsection (b) of section 877 (relating to alternative tax) is amended by striking ''section 1, 55, or 402(d)(1)'' and inserting ''section 1 or 55''.

(12) Section 4980A(c)(4) is amended—

(A) by striking ''to which an election under section 402(d)(4)(B) applies'' and inserting ''(as defined in section 402(e)(4)(D)) with respect to which the individual elects to have this paragraph apply'',

(B) by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''An individual may elect to have this paragraph apply to only one lump-sum distribution.'', and

(C) by striking the heading and inserting:

''(4) SPECIAL ONE-TIME ELECTION.—''.

(13) Section 402(e) is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1999.

(2) RETENTION OF CERTAIN TRANSITION RULES.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to any distribution for which the taxpayer is eligible to elect the benefits of section 1122 (h)(3) or (h)(5) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, individuals who elect such benefits after December 31, 1999, shall not be eligible for 5-year averaging under section 402(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect immediately before such amendments).

SEC. 1402. REPEAL OF $5,000 EXCLUSION OF EMPLOYEES' DEATH BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 101 is hereby repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (c) of section 101 is amended by striking ''subsection (a) or (b)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)''.

(2) Sections 406(e) and 407(e) are each amended by striking paragraph (2) and by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).

(3) Section 7701(a)(20) is amended by striking '', for the purpose of applying the provisions of section 101(b) with respect to employees' death benefits''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to decedents dying after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1403. SIMPLIFIED METHOD FOR TAXING ANNUITY DISTRIBUTIONS UNDER CERTAIN EMPLOYER PLANS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subsection (d) of section 72 (relating to annuities; certain proceeds of endowment and life insurance contracts) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) SPECIAL RULES FOR QUALIFIED EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLANS.—

''(1) SIMPLIFIED METHOD OF TAXING ANNUITY PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any amount received as an annuity under a qualified employer retirement plan—

''(i) subsection (b) shall not apply, and

''(ii) the investment in the contract shall be recovered as provided in this paragraph.

''(B) METHOD OF RECOVERING INVESTMENT IN CONTRACT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Gross income shall not include so much of any monthly annuity payment under a qualified employer retirement plan as does not exceed the amount obtained by dividing—

''(I) the investment in the contract (as of the annuity starting date), by

''(II) the number of anticipated payments determined under the table contained in clause (iii) (or, in the case of a contract to which subsection (c)(3)(B) applies, the number of monthly annuity payments under such contract).

''(ii) CERTAIN RULES MADE APPLICABLE.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (b) shall apply for purposes of this paragraph.

''(iii) NUMBER OF ANTICIPATED PAYMENTS.—

''If the age of the primary annuitant on the annuity starting date is:	The number of anticipated payments is:
Not more than 55 ...	360
More than 55 but not more than 60	310
More than 60 but not more than 65	260
More than 65 but not more than 70	210
More than 70	160.

''(C) ADJUSTMENT FOR REFUND FEATURE NOT APPLICABLE.—For purposes of this paragraph, investment in the contract shall be determined under subsection (c)(1) without regard to subsection (c)(2).

''(D) SPECIAL RULE WHERE LUMP SUM PAID IN CONNECTION WITH COMMENCEMENT OF ANNUITY PAYMENTS.—If, in connection with the commencement of annuity payments under any qualified employer retirement plan, the taxpayer receives a lump sum payment—

''(i) such payment shall be taxable under subsection (e) as if received before the annuity starting date, and

''(ii) the investment in the contract for purposes of this paragraph shall be determined as if such payment had been so received.

''(E) EXCEPTION.—This paragraph shall not apply in any case where the primary annuitant has attained age 75 on the annuity starting date unless there are fewer than 5 years of guaranteed payments under the annuity.

''(F) ADJUSTMENT WHERE ANNUITY PAYMENTS NOT ON MONTHLY BASIS.—In any case where the annuity payments are not made on a monthly basis, appropriate adjustments in the application of this paragraph shall be made to take into account the period on the basis of which such payments are made.

''(G) QUALIFIED EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'qualified employer retirement plan' means any plan or contract described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 4974(c).

''(2) TREATMENT OF EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS.—For purposes of this section, employee contributions (and any income allocable thereto) under a defined contribution plan may be treated as a separate contract.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply in cases where the annuity starting date is after the 90th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1404. REQUIRED DISTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(a)(9)(C) (defining required beginning date) is amended to read as follows:

''(C) REQUIRED BEGINNING DATE.—For purposes of this paragraph—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'required beginning date' means April 1 of the calendar year following the later of—

''(I) the calendar year in which the employee attains age 70½, or

''(II) the calendar year in which the employee retires.

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—Subclause (II) of clause (i) shall not apply—

''(I) except as provided in section 409(d), in the case of an employee who is a 5-percent owner (as defined in section 416) with respect to the plan year ending in the calendar year in which the employee attains age 70½, or

''(II) for purposes of section 408 (a)(6) or (b)(3).

''(iii) ACTUARIAL ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of an employee to whom clause (i)(II) applies who retires in a calendar year after the calendar year in which the employee attains age 70½, the employee's accrued benefit shall be actuarially increased to take into account the period after age 70½ in which the employee was not receiving any benefits under the plan.

''(iv) EXCEPTION FOR GOVERNMENTAL AND CHURCH PLANS.—Clauses (ii) and (iii) shall not apply in the case of a governmental plan or church plan. For purposes of this clause, the term 'church plan' means a plan maintained by a church for church employees, and the term 'church' means any church (as defined in section 3121(w)(3)(A)) or qualified church-controlled organization (as defined in section 3121(w)(3)(B)).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

CHAPTER 2—INCREASED ACCESS TO RETIREMENT PLANS

Subchapter A—Simple Savings Plans

SEC. 1421. ESTABLISHMENT OF SAVINGS INCENTIVE MATCH PLANS FOR EMPLOYEES OF SMALL EMPLOYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408 (relating to individual retirement accounts) is amended by redesignating subsection (p) as subsection (q) and by inserting after subsection (o) the following new subsection:

''(p) SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title, the term 'simple retirement account' means an individual retirement plan (as defined in section 7701(a)(37))—

''(A) with respect to which the requirements of paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) are met; and

''(B) with respect to which the only contributions allowed are contributions under a qualified salary reduction arrangement.

''(2) QUALIFIED SALARY REDUCTION ARRANGEMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'qualified salary reduction arrangement' means a written arrangement of an eligible employer under which—

''(i) an employee eligible to participate in the arrangement may elect to have the employer make payments—

''(I) as elective employer contributions to a simple retirement account on behalf of the employee, or

''(II) to the employee directly in cash,

''(ii) the amount which an employee may elect under clause (i) for any year is required to be expressed as a percentage of compensation and may not exceed a total of $6,000 for any year,

''(iii) the employer is required to make a matching contribution to the simple retirement account for any year in an amount equal to so much of the amount the employee elects under clause (i)(I) as does not exceed the applicable percentage of compensation for the year, and

''(iv) no contributions may be made other than contributions described in clause (i) or (iii).

''(B) EMPLOYER MAY ELECT 2-PERCENT NONELECTIVE CONTRIBUTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An employer shall be treated as meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A)(iii) for any year if, in lieu of the contributions described in such clause, the employer elects to make nonelective contributions of 2 percent of compensation for each employee who is eligible to participate in the arrangement and who has at least $5,000 of compensation from the employer for the year. If an employer makes an election under this subparagraph for any year, the employer shall notify employees of such election within a reasonable period of time before the 60-day period for such year under paragraph (5)(C).

''(ii) COMPENSATION LIMITATION.—The compensation taken into account under clause (i) for any year shall not exceed the limitation in effect for such year under section 401(a)(17).

''(C) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(i) ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The term 'eligible employer' means, with respect to any year, an employer which had no more than 100 employees who received at least $5,000 of compensation from the employer for the preceding year.

''(II) 2-YEAR GRACE PERIOD.—An eligible employer who establishes and maintains a plan under this subsection for 1 or more years and who fails to be an eligible employer for any subsequent year shall be treated as an eligible employer for the 2 years following the last year the employer was an eligible employer. If such failure is due to any acquisition, disposition, or similar transaction involving an eligible employer, the preceding sentence shall apply only in accordance with rules similar to the rules of section 410(b)(6)(C)(i).

''(ii) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The term 'applicable percentage' means 3 percent.

''(II) ELECTION OF LOWER PERCENTAGE.—An employer may elect to apply a lower percentage (not less than 1 percent) for any year for all employees eligible to participate in the plan for such year if the employer notifies the employees of such lower percentage within a reasonable period of time before the 60-day election period for such year under paragraph (5)(C). An employer may not elect a lower percentage under this subclause for any year if that election would result in the applicable percentage being lower than 3 percent in more than 2 of the years in the 5-year period ending with such year.

''(III) SPECIAL RULE FOR YEARS ARRANGEMENT NOT IN EFFECT.—If any year in the 5-year period described in subclause (II) is a year prior to the first year for which any qualified salary reduction arrangement is in effect with respect to the employer (or any predecessor), the employer shall be treated as if the level of the employer matching contribution was at 3 percent of compensation for such prior year.

''(D) ARRANGEMENT MAY BE ONLY PLAN OF EMPLOYER.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An arrangement shall not be treated as a qualified salary reduction arrangement for any year if the employer (or any predecessor employer) maintained a qualified plan with respect to which contributions were made, or benefits were accrued, for service in any year in the period beginning with the year such arrangement became effective and ending with the year for which the determination is being made.

''(ii) QUALIFIED PLAN.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term 'qualified plan' means a

plan, contract, pension, or trust described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 219(g)(5).

''(E) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary shall adjust the $6,000 amount under subparagraph (A)(ii) at the same time and in the same manner as under section 415(d), except that the base period taken into account shall be the calendar quarter ending September 30, 1996, and any increase under this subparagraph which is not a multiple of $500 shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of $500.

''(3) VESTING REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of this paragraph are met with respect to a simple retirement account if the employee's rights to any contribution to the simple retirement account are nonforfeitable. For purposes of this paragraph, rules similar to the rules of subsection (k)(4) shall apply.

''(4) PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this paragraph are met with respect to any simple retirement account for a year only if, under the qualified salary reduction arrangement, all employees of the employer who—

''(i) received at least $5,000 in compensation from the employer during any 2 preceding years, and

''(ii) are reasonably expected to receive at least $5,000 in compensation during the year,

are eligible to make the election under paragraph (2)(A)(i) or receive the nonelective contribution described in paragraph (2)(B).

''(B) EXCLUDABLE EMPLOYEES.—An employer may elect to exclude from the requirement under subparagraph (A) employees described in section 410(b)(3).

''(5) ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of this paragraph are met with respect to any simplified retirement account if, under the qualified salary reduction arrangement—

''(A) an employer must—

''(i) make the elective employer contributions under paragraph (2)(A)(i) not later than the close of the 30-day period following the last day of the month with respect to which the contributions are to be made, and

''(ii) make the matching contributions under paragraph (2)(A)(iii) or the nonelective contributions under paragraph (2)(B) not later than the date described in section 404(m)(2)(B),

''(B) an employee may elect to terminate participation in such arrangement at any time during the year, except that if an employee so terminates, the arrangement may provide that the employee may not elect to resume participation until the beginning of the next year, and

''(C) each employee eligible to participate may elect, during the 60-day period before the beginning of any year (and the 60-day period before the first day such employee is eligible to participate), to participate in the arrangement, or to modify the amounts subject to such arrangement, for such year.

''(6) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) COMPENSATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'compensation' means amounts described in paragraphs (3) and (8) of section 6051(a).

''(ii) SELF-EMPLOYED.—In the case of an employee described in subparagraph (B), the term 'compensation' means net earnings from self-employment determined under section 1402(a) without regard to any contribution under this subsection.

''(B) EMPLOYEE.—The term 'employee' includes an employee as defined in section 401(c)(1).

''(C) YEAR.—The term 'year' means the calendar year.

''(7) USE OF DESIGNATED FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—A plan shall not be treated as failing to satisfy the requirements of this subsection or any other provision of this title merely because the employer makes all contributions to the individual retirement accounts or annuities of a designated trustee or issuer. The preceding sentence shall not apply unless each plan participant is notified in writing (either separately or as part of the notice under subsection (l)(2)(C)) that the participant's balance may be transferred without cost or penalty to another individual account or annuity in accordance with subsection (d)(3)(G).''.

(b) TAX TREATMENT OF SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

(1) DEDUCTIBILITY OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY EMPLOYEES.—

(A) Section 219(b) (relating to maximum amount of deduction) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) SPECIAL RULE FOR SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—This section shall not apply with respect to any amount contributed to a simple retirement account established under section 408(p).''.

(B) Section 219(g)(5)(A) (defining active participant) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (iv) and by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(vi) any simple retirement account (within the meaning of section 408(p)), or''.

(2) DEDUCTIBILITY OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 404 (relating to deductions for contributions of an employer to pension, etc. plans) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(m) SPECIAL RULES FOR SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Employer contributions to a simple retirement account shall be treated as if they are made to a plan subject to the requirements of this section.

''(2) TIMING.—

''(A) DEDUCTION.—Contributions described in paragraph (1) shall be deductible in the taxable year of the employer with or within which the calendar year for which the contributions were made ends.

''(B) CONTRIBUTIONS AFTER END OF YEAR.—For purposes of this subsection, contributions shall be treated as made for a taxable year if they are made on account of the taxable year and are made not later than the time prescribed by law for filing the return for the taxable year (including extensions thereof).''.

(3) CONTRIBUTIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS.—

(A) Section 402 (relating to taxability of beneficiary of employees' trust) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(k) TREATMENT OF SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection (h) shall apply to contributions and distributions with respect to a simple retirement account under section 408(p).''.

(B) Section 408(d)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—This paragraph shall not apply to any amount paid or distributed out of a simple retirement account (as defined in subsection (p)) unless—

''(i) it is paid into another simple retirement account, or

''(ii) in the case of any payment or distribution to which section 72(t)(6) does not apply, it is paid into an individual retirement plan.''.

(C) Clause (i) of section 457(c)(2)(B) is amended by striking ''section 402(h)(1)(B)'' and inserting ''section 402(h)(1)(B) or (k)''.

(4) PENALTIES.—

(A) EARLY WITHDRAWALS.—Section 72(t) (relating to additional tax in early distributions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) SPECIAL RULES FOR SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—In the case of any amount received from a simple retirement account (within the meaning of section 408(p)) during the 2-year period beginning on the date such individual first participated in any qualified salary reduction arrangement maintained by the individual's employer under section 408(p)(2), paragraph (1) shall be applied by substituting '25 percent' for '10 percent'.''.

(B) FAILURE TO REPORT.—Section 6693 is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) PENALTIES RELATING TO SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

''(1) EMPLOYER PENALTIES.—An employer who fails to provide 1 or more notices required by section 408(l)(2)(C) shall pay a penalty of $50 for each day on which such failures continue.

''(2) TRUSTEE PENALTIES.—A trustee who fails—

''(A) to provide 1 or more statements required by the last sentence of section 408(i) shall pay a penalty of $50 for each day on which such failures continue, or

''(B) to provide 1 or more summary descriptions required by section 408(l)(2)(B) shall pay a penalty of $50 for each day on which such failures continue.

''(3) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under this subsection with respect to any failure which the taxpayer shows was due to reasonable cause.''.

(5) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) Section 408(l) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

''(A) NO EMPLOYER REPORTS.—Except as provided in this paragraph, no report shall be required under this section by an employer maintaining a qualified salary reduction arrangement under subsection (p).

''(B) SUMMARY DESCRIPTION.—The trustee of any simple retirement account established pursuant to a qualified salary reduction arrangement under subsection (p) shall provide to the employer maintaining the arrangement, each year a description containing the following information:

''(i) The name and address of the employer and the trustee.

''(ii) The requirements for eligibility for participation.

''(iii) The benefits provided with respect to the arrangement.

''(iv) The time and method of making elections with respect to the arrangement.

''(v) The procedures for, and effects of, withdrawals (including rollovers) from the arrangement.

''(C) EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION.—The employer shall notify each employee immediately before the period for which an election described in subsection (p)(5)(C) may be made of the employee's opportunity to make such election. Such notice shall include a copy of the description described in subparagraph (B).''.

(B) Section 408(l) is amended by striking ''An employer'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An employer''.

(6) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 408(i) is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''In the case of a simple retirement account under subsection (p), only one report under this subsection shall be required to be submitted each calendar year to the Secretary (at the time provided under paragraph (2)) but, in addition to the report under this subsection, there shall be furnished, within 30 days after each calendar year, to the individual on whose behalf the account is maintained a statement with respect to the account balance as of the close of, and the account activity during, such calendar year.''.

(7) EXEMPTION FROM TOP-HEAVY PLAN RULES.—Section 416(g)(4) (relating to special rules for top-heavy plans) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—The term 'top-heavy plan' shall not include a simple retirement account under section 408(p).''.

(8) EMPLOYMENT TAXES.—

(A) Paragraph (5) of section 3121(a) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (F), by inserting ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (G), and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(H) under an arrangement to which section 408(p) applies, other than any elective contributions under paragraph (2)(A)(i) thereof,''.

(B) Section 209(a)(4) of the Social Security Act is amended by inserting ''; or (J) under an arrangement to which section 408(p) of such Code applies, other than any elective contributions under paragraph (2)(A)(i) thereof'' before the semicolon at the end thereof.

(C) Paragraph (5) of section 3306(b) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (F), by inserting ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (G), and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(H) under an arrangement to which section 408(p) applies, other than any elective contributions under paragraph (2)(A)(i) thereof,''.

(D) Paragraph (12) of section 3401(a) is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

''(D) under an arrangement to which section 408(p) applies; or''.

(9) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 280G(b)(6) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting '', or'' and by adding after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

''(D) a simple retirement account described in section 408(p).''.

(B) Section 402(g)(3) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting '', and'', and by adding after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

''(D) any elective employer contribution under section 408(p)(2)(A)(i).''.

(C) Subsections (b), (c), (m)(4)(B), and (n)(3)(B) of section 414 are each amended by inserting ''408(p),'' after ''408(k),''.

(D) Section 4972(d)(1)(A) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (ii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting '', and'', and by adding after clause (iii) the following new clause:

''(iv) any simple retirement account (within the meaning of section 408(p)).''.

(c) REPEAL OF SALARY REDUCTION SIMPLIFIED EMPLOYEE PENSIONS.—Section 408(k)(6) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(H) TERMINATION.—This paragraph shall not apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996. The preceding sentence shall not apply to a simplified employee pension if the terms of such pension, as in effect on December 31, 1996, provide that an employee may make the election described in subparagraph (A).''.

(d) MODIFICATIONS OF ERISA.—

(1) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 101 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1021) is amended by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h) and by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

''(g) SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

''(1) NO EMPLOYER REPORTS.—Except as provided in this subsection, no report shall be required under this section by an employer maintaining a qualified salary reduction arrangement under section 408(p) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(2) SUMMARY DESCRIPTION.—The trustee of any simple retirement account established pursuant to a qualified salary reduction arrangement under section 408(p) of such Code shall provide to the employer maintaining the arrangement each year a description containing the following information:

''(A) The name and address of the employer and the trustee.

''(B) The requirements for eligibility for participation.

''(C) The benefits provided with respect to the arrangement.

''(D) The time and method of making elections with respect to the arrangement.

''(E) The procedures for, and effects of, withdrawals (including rollovers) from the arrangement.

''(3) EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION.—The employer shall notify each employee immediately before the period for which an election described in section 408(p)(5)(C) of such Code may be made of the employee's opportunity to make such election. Such notice shall include a copy of the description described in paragraph (2).''

(2) FIDUCIARY DUTIES.—Section 404(c) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1104(c)) is amended by inserting ''(1)'' after ''(c)'', by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) In the case of a simple retirement account established pursuant to a qualified salary reduction arrangement under section 408(p) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, a participant or beneficiary shall, for purposes of paragraph (1), be treated as exercising control over the assets in the account upon the earliest of—

''(A) an affirmative election among investment options with respect to the initial investment of any contribution,

''(B) a rollover to any other simple retirement account or individual retirement plan, or

''(C) one year after the simple retirement account is established.

No reports, other than those required under section 101(g), shall be required with respect to a simple retirement account established pursuant to such a qualified salary reduction arrangement.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1422. EXTENSION OF SIMPLE PLAN TO 401(k) ARRANGEMENTS.

(a) ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF SATISFYING SECTION 401(k) NONDISCRIMINATION TESTS.—Section 401(k) (relating to cash or deferred arrangements) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(11) ADOPTION OF SIMPLE PLAN TO MEET NONDISCRIMINATION TESTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A cash or deferred arrangement maintained by an eligible employer shall be treated as meeting the requirements of paragraph (3)(A)(ii) if such arrangement meets—

''(i) the contribution requirements of subparagraph (B),

''(ii) the exclusive plan requirements of subparagraph (C), and

''(iii) the vesting requirements of section 408(p)(3).

''(B) CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met if, under the arrangement—

''(I) an employee may elect to have the employer make elective contributions for the year on behalf of the employee to a trust under the plan in an amount which is expressed as a percentage of compensation of the employee but which in no event exceeds $6,000,

''(II) the employer is required to make a matching contribution to the trust for the year in an amount equal to so much of the amount the employee elects under subclause (I) as does not exceed 3 percent of compensation for the year, and

''(III) no other contributions may be made other than contributions described in subclause (I) or (II).

''(ii) EMPLOYER MAY ELECT 2-PERCENT NONELECTIVE CONTRIBUTION.—An employer shall be treated as meeting the requirements of clause (i)(II) for any year if, in lieu of the contributions described in such clause, the employer elects (pursuant to the terms of the arrangement) to make nonelective contributions of 2 percent of compensation for each employee who is eligible to participate in the arrangement and who has at least $5,000 of compensation from the employer for the year. If an employer makes an election under this subparagraph for any year, the employer shall notify employees of such election within a reasonable period of time before the 60th day before the beginning of such year.

''(C) EXCLUSIVE PLAN REQUIREMENT.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met for any year to which this paragraph applies if no contributions were made, or benefits were accrued, for services during such year under any qualified plan of the employer on behalf of any employee eligible to participate in the cash or deferred arrangement, other than contributions described in subparagraph (B).

''(D) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULE.—

''(i) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, any term used in this paragraph which is also used in section 408(p) shall have the meaning given such term by such section.

''(ii) COORDINATION WITH TOP-HEAVY RULES.—A plan meeting the requirements of this paragraph for any year shall not be treated as a top-heavy plan under section 416 for such year.''.

(b) ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF SATISFYING SECTION 401(m) NONDISCRIMINATION TESTS.—Section 401(m) (relating to nondiscrimination test for matching contributions and employee contributions) is amended by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11) and by adding after paragraph (9) the following new paragraph:

''(10) ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF SATISFYING TESTS.—A defined contribution plan shall be treated as meeting the requirements of paragraph (2) with respect to matching contributions if the plan—

''(A) meets the contribution requirements of subparagraph (B) of subsection (k)(11),

''(B) meets the exclusive plan requirements of subsection (k)(11)(C), and

''(C) meets the vesting requirements of section 408(p)(3).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Subchapter B—Other Provisions

SEC. 1426. TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 401(k).

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 401(k)(4) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) ELIGIBILITY OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(i) TAX-EXEMPTS ELIGIBLE.—Except as provided in clause (ii), any organization exempt from tax under this subtitle may include a qualified cash or deferred arrangement as part of a plan maintained by it.

''(ii) GOVERNMENTS INELIGIBLE.—A cash or deferred arrangement shall not be treated as a qualified cash or deferred arrangement if it is part of a plan maintained by a State or local government or political subdivision thereof, or any agency or instrumentality thereof. This clause shall not apply to a rural cooperative plan or to a plan of an employer described in clause (iii).

''(iii) TREATMENT OF INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.—An employer which is an Indian tribal government (as defined in section 7701(a)(40)), a subdivision of an Indian tribal government (determined in accordance with section 7871(d)), an agency or instrumentality of an Indian tribal government or subdivision thereof, or a corporation chartered under Federal, State, or tribal law which is owned in whole or in part by any of the foregoing may include a qualified cash or deferred arrangement as part of a plan maintained by the employer.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 1996, but shall not apply to any cash or deferred arrangement to which clause (i) of section 1116(f)(2)(B) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 applies.

SEC. 1427. HOMEMAKERS ELIGIBLE FOR FULL IRA DEDUCTION.

(a) SPOUSAL IRA COMPUTED ON BASIS OF COMPENSATION OF BOTH SPOUSES.—Subsection (c) of section 219 (relating to special rules for

certain married individuals) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN MARRIED INDIVIDUALS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual to whom this paragraph applies for the taxable year, the limitation of paragraph (1) of subsection (b) shall be equal to the lesser of—

''(A) the dollar amount in effect under subsection (b)(1)(A) for the taxable year, or

''(B) the sum of—

''(i) the compensation includible in such individual's gross income for the taxable year, plus

''(ii) the compensation includible in the gross income of such individual's spouse for the taxable year reduced by the amount allowed as a deduction under subsection (a) to such spouse for such taxable year.

''(2) INDIVIDUALS TO WHOM PARAGRAPH (1) APPLIES.—Paragraph (1) shall apply to any individual if—

''(A) such individual files a joint return for the taxable year, and

''(B) the amount of compensation (if any) includible in such individual's gross income for the taxable year is less than the compensation includible in the gross income of such individual's spouse for the taxable year.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 219(f) (relating to other definitions and special rules) is amended by striking ''subsections (b) and (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)''.

(2) Section 219(g)(1) is amended by striking ''(c)(2)'' and inserting ''(c)(1)(A)''.

(3) Section 408(d)(5) is amended by striking ''$2,250'' and inserting ''the dollar amount in effect under section 219(b)(1)(A)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

CHAPTER 3—NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS

SEC. 1431. DEFINITION OF HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES; REPEAL OF FAMILY AGGREGATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 414(q) (defining highly compensated employee) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'highly compensated employee' means any employee who—

''(A) was a 5-percent owner at any time during the year or the preceding year, or

''(B) for the preceding year—

''(i) had compensation from the employer in excess of $80,000, and

''(ii) if the employer elects the application of this clause for such preceding year, was in the top-paid group of employees for such preceding year.

The Secretary shall adjust the $80,000 amount under subparagraph (B) at the same time and in the same manner as under section 415(d), except that the base period shall be the calendar quarter ending September 30, 1996.''.

(b) REPEAL OF FAMILY AGGREGATION RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 414(q) is hereby repealed.

(2) COMPENSATION LIMIT.—Paragraph (17)(A) of section 401(a) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(3) DEDUCTION.—Subsection (l) of section 404 is amended by striking the last sentence.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1)(A) Subsection (q) of section 414 is amended by striking paragraphs (2), (5), and (12) and by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (7), (8), (9), (10), and (11) as paragraphs (2) through (8), respectively.

(B) Sections 129(d)(8)(B), 401(a)(5)(D)(ii), 408(k)(2)(C), and 416(i)(1)(D) are each amended by striking ''section 414(q)(7)'' and inserting ''section 414(q)(4)''.

(C) Section 416(i)(1)(A) is amended by striking ''section 414(q)(8)'' and inserting ''section 414(q)(5)''.

(D) Subparagraph (A) of section 414(r)(2) is amended by striking ''subsection (q)(8)'' and inserting ''subsection (q)(5)''.

(E) Section 414(q)(5), as redesignated by subparagraph (A), is amended by striking ''under paragraph (4), or the number of officers taken into account under paragraph (5)''.

(2) Section 1114(c)(4) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Any reference in this paragraph to section 414(q) shall be treated as a reference to such section as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996, except that in determining whether an employee is a highly compensated employee for years beginning in 1997, such amendments shall be treated as having been in effect for years beginning in 1996.

(2) FAMILY AGGREGATION.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1432. MODIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Section 401(a)(26)(A) (relating to additional participation requirements) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a trust which is a part of a defined benefit plan, such trust shall not constitute a qualified trust under this subsection unless on each day of the plan year such trust benefits at least the lesser of—

''(i) 50 employees of the employer, or

''(ii) the greater of—

''(I) 40 percent of all employees of the employer, or

''(II) 2 employees (or if there is only 1 employee, such employee).''.

(b) SEPARATE LINE OF BUSINESS TEST.—Section 401(a)(26)(G) (relating to separate line of business) is amended by striking ''paragraph (7)'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)(A) or (7)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1433. NONDISCRIMINATION RULES FOR QUALIFIED CASH OR DEFERRED ARRANGEMENTS AND MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF SATISFYING SECTION 401(k) NONDISCRIMINATION TESTS.—Section 401(k) (relating to cash or deferred arrangements), as amended by section 1422, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(12) ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF MEETING NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A cash or deferred arrangement shall be treated as meeting the requirements of paragraph (3)(A)(ii) if such arrangement—

''(i) meets the contribution requirements of subparagraph (B) or (C), and

''(ii) meets the notice requirements of subparagraph (D).

''(B) MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met if, under the arrangement, the employer makes matching contributions on behalf of each employee who is not a highly compensated employee in an amount equal to—

''(I) 100 percent of the elective contributions of the employee to the extent such elective contributions do not exceed 3 percent of the employee's compensation, and

''(II) 50 percent of the elective contributions of the employee to the extent that such elective contributions exceed 3 percent but do not exceed 5 percent of the employee's compensation.

''(ii) RATE FOR HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES.—The requirements of this subparagraph are not met if, under the arrangement, the rate of matching contribution with respect to any elective contribution of a highly compensated employee at any rate of elective contribution is greater than that with respect to an employee who is not a highly compensated employee.

''(iii) ALTERNATIVE PLAN DESIGNS.—If the rate of any matching contribution with respect to any rate of elective contribution is not equal to the percentage required under clause (i), an arrangement shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of clause (i) if—

''(I) the rate of an employer's matching contribution does not increase as an employee's rate of elective contributions increase, and

''(II) the aggregate amount of matching contributions at such rate of elective contribution is at least equal to the aggregate amount of matching contributions which would be made if matching contributions were made on the basis of the percentages described in clause (i).

''(C) NONELECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met if, under the arrangement, the employer is required, without regard to whether the employee makes an elective contribution or employee contribution, to make a contribution to a defined contribution plan on behalf of each employee who is not a highly compensated employee and who is eligible to participate in the arrangement in an amount equal to at least 3 percent of the employee's compensation.

''(D) NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—An arrangement meets the requirements of this paragraph if, under the arrangement, each employee eligible to participate is, within a reasonable period before any year, given written notice of the employee's rights and obligations under the arrangement which—

''(i) is sufficiently accurate and comprehensive to appraise the employee of such rights and obligations, and

''(ii) is written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average employee eligible to participate.

''(E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—

''(i) WITHDRAWAL AND VESTING RESTRICTIONS.—An arrangement shall not be treated as meeting the requirements of subparagraph (B) or (C) of this paragraph unless the requirements of subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (2) are met with respect to all employer contributions (including matching contributions) taken into account in determining whether the requirements of subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this paragraph are met.

''(ii) SOCIAL SECURITY AND SIMILAR CONTRIBUTIONS NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—An arrangement shall not be treated as meeting the requirements of subparagraph (B) or (C) unless such requirements are met without regard to subsection (l), and, for purposes of subsection (l), employer contributions under subparagraph (B) or (C) shall not be taken into account.

''(F) OTHER PLANS.—An arrangement shall be treated as meeting the requirements under subparagraph (A)(i) if any other plan maintained by the employer meets such requirements with respect to employees eligible under the arrangement.''.

(b) ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF SATISFYING SECTION 401(m) NONDISCRIMINATION TESTS.—Section 401(m) (relating to nondiscrimination test for matching contributions and employee contributions), as amended by section 1422(b), is amended by redesignating paragraph (11) as paragraph (12) and by adding after paragraph (10) the following new paragraph:

''(11) ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF SATISFYING TESTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A defined contribution plan shall be treated as meeting the requirements of paragraph (2) with respect to matching contributions if the plan—

''(i) meets the contribution requirements of subparagraph (B) or (C) of subsection (k)(12),

''(ii) meets the notice requirements of subsection (k)(12)(D), and

''(iii) meets the requirements of subparagraph (B).

''(B) LIMITATION ON MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met if—

''(i) matching contributions on behalf of any employee may not be made with respect to an

employee's contributions or elective deferrals in excess of 6 percent of the employee's compensation,

''(ii) the rate of an employer's matching contribution does not increase as the rate of an employee's contributions or elective deferrals increase, and

''(iii) the matching contribution with respect to any highly compensated employee at any rate of an employee contribution or rate of elective deferral is not greater than that with respect to an employee who is not a highly compensated employee.''.

(c) YEAR FOR COMPUTING NONHIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEE PERCENTAGE.—

(1) CASH OR DEFERRED ARRANGEMENTS.—Section 401(k)(3)(A) is amended—

(A) by striking ''such year'' in clause (ii) and inserting ''the plan year'',

(B) by striking ''for such plan year'' in clause (ii) and inserting ''for the preceding plan year'', and

(C) by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''An arrangement may apply clause (ii) by using the plan year rather than the preceding plan year if the employer so elects, except that if such an election is made, it may not be changed except as provided by the Secretary.''.

(2) MATCHING AND EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 401(m)(2)(A) is amended—

(A) by inserting ''for such plan year'' after ''highly compensated employees'',

(B) by inserting ''for the preceding plan year'' after ''eligible employees'' each place it appears in clause (i) and clause (ii), and

(C) by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''This subparagraph may be applied by using the plan year rather than the preceding plan year if the employer so elects, except that if such an election is made, it may not be changed except as provided the Secretary.''.

(d) SPECIAL RULE FOR DETERMINING AVERAGE DEFERRAL PERCENTAGE FOR FIRST PLAN YEAR, ETC.—

(1) Paragraph (3) of section 401(k) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(E) For purposes of this paragraph, in the case of the first plan year of any plan (other than a successor plan), the amount taken into account as the actual deferral percentage of nonhighly compensated employees for the preceding plan year shall be—

''(i) 3 percent, or

''(ii) if the employer makes an election under this subclause, the actual deferral percentage of nonhighly compensated employees determined for such first plan year.''.

(2) Paragraph (3) of section 401(m) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''Rules similar to the rules of subsection (k)(3)(E) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

(e) DISTRIBUTION OF EXCESS CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXCESS AGGREGATE CONTRIBUTIONS.—

(1) Subparagraph (C) of section 401(k)(8) (relating to arrangement not disqualified if excess contributions distributed) is amended by striking ''on the basis of the respective portions of the excess contributions attributable to each of such employees'' and inserting ''on the basis of the amount of contributions by, or on behalf of, each of such employees''.

(2) Subparagraph (C) of section 401(m)(6) (relating to method of distributing excess aggregate contributions) is amended by striking ''on the basis of the respective portions of such amounts attributable to each of such employees'' and inserting ''on the basis of the amount of contributions on behalf of, or by, each such employee''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1998.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The amendments made by subsections (c), (d), and (e) shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1434. DEFINITION OF COMPENSATION FOR SECTION 415 PURPOSES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Section 415(c)(3) (defining participant's compensation) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D) CERTAIN DEFERRALS INCLUDED.—The term 'participant's compensation' shall include—

''(i) any elective deferral (as defined in section 402(g)(3)), and

''(ii) any amount which is contributed or deferred by the employer at the election of the employee and which is not includible in the gross income of the employee by reason of section 125 or 457.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 414(q)(4), as redesignated by section 1431, is amended to read as follows:

''(4) COMPENSATION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'compensation' has the meaning given such term by section 415(c)(3).''.

(2) Section 414(s)(2) is amended by inserting ''not'' after ''elect'' in the text and heading thereof.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1997.

CHAPTER 4—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 1441. PLANS COVERING SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS.

(a) AGGREGATION RULES.—Section 401(d) (relating to additional requirements for qualification of trusts and plans benefiting owner-employees) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) CONTRIBUTION LIMIT ON OWNER-EMPLOYEES.—A trust forming part of a pension or profit-sharing plan which provides contributions or benefits for employees some or all of whom are owner-employees shall constitute a qualified trust under this section only if, in addition to meeting the requirements of subsection (a), the plan provides that contributions on behalf of any owner-employee may be made only with respect to the earned income of such owner-employee which is derived from the trade or business with respect to which such plan is established.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1442. ELIMINATION OF SPECIAL VESTING RULE FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO 1986 CODE.—Paragraph (2) of section 411(a) (relating to minimum vesting standards) is amended—

(1) by striking ''subparagraph (A), (B), or (C)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (A) or (B)''; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (C).

(b) AMENDMENTS TO ERISA.—Paragraph (2) of section 203(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1053(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''subparagraph (A), (B), or (C)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (A) or (B)''; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (C).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning on or after the earlier of—

(1) the later of—

(A) January 1, 1997, or

(B) the date on which the last of the collective bargaining agreements pursuant to which the plan is maintained terminates (determined without regard to any extension thereof after the date of the enactment of this Act), or

(2) January 1, 1999.

Such amendments shall not apply to any individual who does not have more than 1 hour of service under the plan on or after the 1st day of the 1st plan year to which such amendments apply.

SEC. 1443. DISTRIBUTIONS UNDER RURAL COOPERATIVE PLANS.

(a) DISTRIBUTIONS FOR HARDSHIP OR AFTER A CERTAIN AGE.—Section 401(k)(7) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN DISTRIBUTIONS.—A rural cooperative plan which includes a qualified cash or deferred arrangement shall not be treated as violating the requirements of section 401(a) or of paragraph (2) merely by reason of a hardship distribution or a distribution to a participant after attainment of age 59½. For purposes of this section, the term 'hardship distribution' means a distribution described in paragraph (2)(B)(i)(IV) (without regard to the limitation of its application to profit-sharing or stock bonus plans).''.

(b) PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS.—Clause (i) of section 401(k)(7)(B) (defining rural cooperative) is amended to read as follows:

''(i) any organization which—

''(I) is engaged primarily in providing electric service on a mutual or cooperative basis, or

''(II) is engaged primarily in providing electric service to the public in its area of service and which is exempt from tax under this subtitle or which is a State or local government (or an agency or instrumentality thereof), other than a municipality (or an agency or instrumentality thereof),''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) DISTRIBUTIONS.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to distributions after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1444. TREATMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL PLANS UNDER SECTION 415.

(a) COMPENSATION LIMIT.—Subsection (b) of section 415 is amended by adding immediately after paragraph (10) the following new paragraph:

''(11) SPECIAL LIMITATION RULE FOR GOVERNMENTAL PLANS.—In the case of a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d)), subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) shall not apply.''.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN EXCESS BENEFIT PLANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 415 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(m) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED GOVERNMENTAL EXCESS BENEFIT ARRANGEMENTS.—

''(1) GOVERNMENTAL PLAN NOT AFFECTED.—In determining whether a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d)) meets the requirements of this section, benefits provided under a qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement shall not be taken into account. Income accruing to a governmental plan (or to a trust that is maintained solely for the purpose of providing benefits under a qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement) in respect of a qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement shall constitute income derived from the exercise of an essential governmental function upon which such governmental plan (or trust) shall be exempt from tax under section 115.

''(2) TAXATION OF PARTICIPANT.—For purposes of this chapter—

''(A) the taxable year or years for which amounts in respect of a qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement are includible in gross income by a participant, and

''(B) the treatment of such amounts when so includible by the participant,

shall be determined as if such qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement were treated as a plan for the deferral of compensation which is maintained by a corporation not exempt from tax under this chapter and which does not meet the requirements for qualification under section 401.

''(3) QUALIFIED GOVERNMENTAL EXCESS BENEFIT ARRANGEMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement' means a portion of a governmental plan if—

''(A) such portion is maintained solely for the purpose of providing to participants in the plan

that part of the participant's annual benefit otherwise payable under the terms of the plan that exceeds the limitations on benefits imposed by this section,

''(B) under such portion no election is provided at any time to the participant (directly or indirectly) to defer compensation, and

''(C) benefits described in subparagraph (A) are not paid from a trust forming a part of such governmental plan unless such trust is maintained solely for the purpose of providing such benefits.''.

(2) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 457.—Subsection (e) of section 457 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(14) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED GOVERNMENTAL EXCESS BENEFIT ARRANGEMENTS.—Subsections (b)(2) and (c)(1) shall not apply to any qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement (as defined in section 415(m)(3)), and benefits provided under such an arrangement shall not be taken into account in determining whether any other plan is an eligible deferred compensation plan.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2) of section 457(f) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting immediately thereafter the following new subparagraph:

''(E) a qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement described in section 415(m).''.

(c) EXEMPTION FOR SURVIVOR AND DISABILITY BENEFITS.—Paragraph (2) of section 415(b) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(I) EXEMPTION FOR SURVIVOR AND DISABILITY BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER GOVERNMENTAL PLANS.—Subparagraph (C) of this paragraph and paragraph (5) shall not apply to—

''(i) income received from a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d)) as a pension, annuity, or similar allowance as the result of the recipient becoming disabled by reason of personal injuries or sickness, or

''(ii) amounts received from a governmental plan by the beneficiaries, survivors, or the estate of an employee as the result of the death of the employee.''.

(d) REVOCATION OF GRANDFATHER ELECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 415(b)(10) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(ii) REVOCATION OF ELECTION.—An election under clause (i) may be revoked not later than the last day of the third plan year beginning after the date of the enactment of this clause. The revocation shall apply to all plan years to which the election applied and to all subsequent plan years. Any amount paid by a plan in a taxable year ending after the revocation shall be includible in income in such taxable year under the rules of this chapter in effect for such taxable year, except that, for purposes of applying the limitations imposed by this section, any portion of such amount which is attributable to any taxable year during which the election was in effect shall be treated as received in such taxable year.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (C) of section 415(b)(10) is amended by striking ''This'' and inserting:

''(i) IN GENERAL.—This''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1994. The amendments made by subsection (d) shall apply with respect to revocations adopted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TREATMENT FOR YEARS BEGINNING BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1995.—Nothing in the amendments made by this section shall be construed to imply that a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) fails to satisfy the requirements of section 415 of such Code for any taxable year beginning before January 1, 1995.

SEC. 1445. UNIFORM RETIREMENT AGE.

(a) DISCRIMINATION TESTING.—Paragraph (5) of section 401(a) (relating to special rules relating to nondiscrimination requirements) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) SOCIAL SECURITY RETIREMENT AGE.—For purposes of testing for discrimination under paragraph (4)—

''(i) the social security retirement age (as defined in section 415(b)(8)) shall be treated as a uniform retirement age, and

''(ii) subsidized early retirement benefits and joint and survivor annuities shall not be treated as being unavailable to employees on the same terms merely because such benefits or annuities are based in whole or in part on an employee's social security retirement age (as so defined).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1446. CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF DISABLED EMPLOYEES.

(a) ALL DISABLED PARTICIPANTS RECEIVING CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 415(c)(3)(C) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''If a defined contribution plan provides for the continuation of contributions on behalf of all participants described in clause (i) for a fixed or determinable period, this subparagraph shall be applied without regard to clauses (ii) and (iii).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1447. TREATMENT OF DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLANS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) SPECIAL RULES FOR PLAN DISTRIBUTIONS.—Paragraph (9) of section 457(e) (relating to other definitions and special rules) is amended to read as follows:

''(9) BENEFITS NOT TREATED AS MADE AVAILABLE BY REASON OF CERTAIN ELECTIONS, ETC.—

''(A) TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE IS $3,500 OR LESS.—The total amount payable to a participant under the plan shall not be treated as made available merely because the participant may elect to receive such amount (or the plan may distribute such amount without the participant's consent) if—

''(i) such amount does not exceed $3,500, and

''(ii) such amount may be distributed only if—

''(I) no amount has been deferred under the plan with respect to such participant during the 2-year period ending on the date of the distribution, and

''(II) there has been no prior distribution under the plan to such participant to which this subparagraph applied.

A plan shall not be treated as failing to meet the distribution requirements of subsection (d) by reason of a distribution to which this subparagraph applies.

''(B) ELECTION TO DEFER COMMENCEMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS.—The total amount payable to a participant under the plan shall not be treated as made available merely because the participant may elect to defer commencement of distributions under the plan if—

''(i) such election is made after amounts may be available under the plan in accordance with subsection (d)(1)(A) and before commencement of such distributions, and

''(ii) the participant may make only 1 such election.''.

(b) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT OF MAXIMUM DEFERRAL AMOUNT.—Subsection (e) of section 457, as amended by section 1444(b)(2) (relating to governmental plans), is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(15) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT OF MAXIMUM DEFERRAL AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall adjust the $7,500 amount specified in subsections (b)(2) and (c)(1) at the same time and in the same manner as under section 415(d), except that the base period shall be the calendar quarter ending September 30, 1994, and any increase under this paragraph which is not a multiple of $500 shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of $500.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1448. TRUST REQUIREMENT FOR DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLANS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 457 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) GOVERNMENTAL PLANS MUST MAINTAIN SET-ASIDES FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF PARTICIPANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A plan maintained by an eligible employer described in subsection (e)(1)(A) shall not be treated as an eligible deferred compensation plan unless all assets and income of the plan described in subsection (b)(6) are held in trust for the exclusive benefit of participants and their beneficiaries.

''(2) TAXABILITY OF TRUSTS AND PARTICIPANTS.—For purposes of this title—

''(A) a trust described in paragraph (1) shall be treated as an organization exempt from taxation under section 501(a), and

''(B) notwithstanding any other provision of this title, amounts in the trust shall be includible in the gross income of participants and beneficiaries only to the extent, and at the time, provided in this section.

''(3) CUSTODIAL ACCOUNTS AND CONTRACTS.—For purposes of this subsection, custodial accounts and contracts described in section 401(f) shall be treated as trusts under rules similar to the rules under section 401(f).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (6) of section 457(b) is amended by inserting ''except as provided in subsection (g),'' before ''which provides that''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to assets and income described in section 457(b)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 held by a plan on and after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITION RULE.—In the case of a plan in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act, a trust need not be established by reason of the amendments made by this section before January 1, 1999.

SEC. 1449. TRANSITION RULE FOR COMPUTING MAXIMUM BENEFITS UNDER SECTION 415 LIMITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 767(d)(3) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act is amended to read as follows:

''(A) EXCEPTION.—A plan that was adopted and in effect before December 8, 1994, shall not be required to apply the amendments made by subsection (b) with respect to benefits accrued before the earlier of—

''(i) the later of the date a plan amendment applying the amendments made by subsection (b) is adopted or made effective, or

''(ii) the first day of the first limitation year beginning after December 31, 1999.

Determinations under section 415(b)(2)(E) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 before such earlier date shall be made with respect to such benefits on the basis of such section as in effect on December 7, 1994 (except that the modification made by section 1449(b) of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 shall be taken into account), and the provisions of the plan as in effect on December 7, 1994, but only if such provisions of the plan meet the requirements of such section (as so in effect).''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN ASSUMPTIONS FOR ADJUSTING BENEFITS OF DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS FOR EARLY RETIREES.—Subparagraph (E) of section 415(b)(2) (relating to limitation on certain assumptions) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Except as provided in clause (ii), for purposes of adjusting any benefit or limitation under subparagraph (B) or (C),'' in

clause (i) and inserting ''For purposes of adjusting any limitation under subparagraph (C) and, except as provided in clause (ii), for purposes of adjusting any benefit under subparagraph (B),'', and

(2) by striking ''For purposes of adjusting the benefit or limitation of any form of benefit subject to section 417(e)(3),'' in clause (ii) and inserting ''For purposes of adjusting any benefit under subparagraph (B) for any form of benefit subject to section 417(e)(3),''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the provisions of section 767 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

(d) TRANSITIONAL RULE.—In the case of a plan that was adopted and in effect before December 8, 1994, if—

(1) a plan amendment was adopted or made effective on or before the date of the enactment of this Act applying the amendments made by section 767 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, and

(2) within 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, a plan amendment is adopted which repeals the amendment referred to in paragraph (1),

the amendment referred to in paragraph (1) shall not be taken into account in applying section 767(d)(3)(A) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, as amended by subsection (a).

SEC. 1450. MODIFICATIONS OF SECTION 403(b).

(a) MULTIPLE SALARY REDUCTION AGREEMENTS PERMITTED.—

(1) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the frequency that an employee is permitted to enter into a salary reduction agreement, the salary to which such an agreement may apply, and the ability to revoke such an agreement shall be determined under the rules applicable to cash or deferred elections under section 401(k) of such Code.

(2) CONSTRUCTIVE RECEIPT.—Section 402(e)(3) is amended by inserting ''or which is part of a salary reduction agreement under section 403(b)'' after ''section 401(k)(2))''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

(b) TREATMENT OF INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any contract purchased in a plan year beginning before January 1, 1995, section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall be applied as if any reference to an employer described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which is exempt from tax under section 501 of such Code included a reference to an employer which is an Indian tribal government (as defined by section 7701(a)(40) of such Code), a subdivision of an Indian tribal government (determined in accordance with section 7871(d) of such Code), an agency or instrumentality of an Indian tribal government or subdivision thereof, or a corporation chartered under Federal, State, or tribal law which is owned in whole or in part by any of the foregoing.

(2) ROLLOVERS.—Solely for purposes of applying section 403(b)(8) of such Code to a contract to which paragraph (1) applies, a qualified cash or deferred arrangement under section 401(k) of such Code shall be treated as if it were a plan or contract described in clause (ii) of section 403(b)(8)(A) of such Code.

(c) ELECTIVE DEFERRALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (E) of section 403(b)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(E) in the case of a contract purchased under a salary reduction agreement, the contract meets the requirements of section 401(a)(30),''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1995, except a contract shall not be required to meet any change in any requirement by reason of such amendment before the 90th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1451. SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO JOINT AND SURVIVOR ANNUITY EXPLANATIONS.

(a) AMENDMENT TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 417(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO TIME FOR WRITTEN EXPLANATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection—

''(A) EXPLANATION MAY BE PROVIDED AFTER ANNUITY STARTING DATE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A plan may provide the written explanation described in paragraph (3)(A) after the annuity starting date. In any case to which this subparagraph applies, the applicable election period under paragraph (6) shall not end before the 30th day after the date on which such explanation is provided.

''(ii) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may by regulations limit the application of clause (i), except that such regulations may not limit the period of time by which the annuity starting date precedes the provision of the written explanation other than by providing that the annuity starting date may not be earlier than termination of employment.

''(B) WAIVER OF 30-DAY PERIOD.—A plan may permit a participant to elect (with any applicable spousal consent) to waive any requirement that the written explanation be provided at least 30 days before the annuity starting date (or to waive the 30-day requirement under subparagraph (A)) if the distribution commences more than 7 days after such explanation is provided.''

(b) AMENDMENT TO ERISA.—Section 205(c) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1055(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection—

''(A)(i) A plan may provide the written explanation described in paragraph (3)(A) after the annuity starting date. In any case to which this subparagraph applies, the applicable election period under paragraph (7) shall not end before the 30th day after the date on which such explanation is provided.

''(ii) The Secretary may by regulations limit the application of clause (i), except that such regulations may not limit the period of time by which the annuity starting date precedes the provision of the written explanation other than by providing that the annuity starting date may not be earlier than termination of employment.

''(B) A plan may permit a participant to elect (with any applicable spousal consent) to waive any requirement that the written explanation be provided at least 30 days before the annuity starting date (or to waive the 30-day requirement under subparagraph (A)) if the distribution commences more than 7 days after such explanation is provided.''

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1452. REPEAL OF LIMITATION IN CASE OF DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN AND DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN FOR SAME EMPLOYEE; EXCESS DISTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 415(e) is repealed.

(b) EXCESS DISTRIBUTIONS.—Section 4980A is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply to distributions during years beginning after December 31, 1996, and before January 1, 2000, and such distributions shall be treated as made first from amounts not described in subsection (f).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (1) of section 415(a) is amended—

(A) by adding ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (A),

(B) by striking '', or'' at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting a period, and

(C) by striking subparagraph (C).

(2) Subparagraph (B) of section 415(b)(5) is amended by striking ''and subsection (e)''.

(3) Paragraph (1) of section 415(f) is amended by striking ''subsections (b), (c), and (e)'' and inserting ''subsections (b) and (c)''.

(4) Subsection (g) of section 415 is amended by striking ''subsections (e) and (f)'' in the last sentence and inserting ''subsection (f)''.

(5) Clause (i) of section 415(k)(2)(A) is amended to read as follows:

''(i) any contribution made directly by an employee under such an arrangement shall not be treated as an annual addition for purposes of subsection (c), and''.

(6) Clause (ii) of section 415(k)(2)(A) is amended by striking ''subsections (c) and (e)'' and inserting ''subsection (c)''.

(7) Section 416 is amended by striking subsection (h).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to limitation years beginning after December 31, 1999.

(2) EXCESS DISTRIBUTIONS.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1453. TAX ON PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4975(a) is amended by striking ''5 percent'' and inserting ''10 percent''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to prohibited transactions occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1454. TREATMENT OF LEASED EMPLOYEES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subparagraph (C) of section 414(n)(2) (defining leased employee) is amended to read as follows:

''(C) such services are performed under primary direction or control by the recipient.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996, but shall not apply to any relationship determined under an Internal Revenue Service ruling issued before the date of the enactment of this Act pursuant to section 414(n)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect on the day before such date) not to involve a leased employee.

SEC. 1455. UNIFORM PENALTY PROVISIONS TO APPLY TO CERTAIN PENSION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) PENALTIES.—

(1) STATEMENTS.—Paragraph (1) of section 6724(d) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

''(C) any statement of the amount of payments to another person required to be made to the Secretary under—

''(i) section 408(i) (relating to reports with respect to individual retirement accounts or annuities), or

''(ii) section 6047(d) (relating to reports by employers, plan administrators, etc.).''.

(2) REPORTS.—Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (U), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (V) and inserting a comma, and by inserting after subparagraph (V) the following new subparagraphs:

''(W) section 408(i) (relating to reports with respect to individual retirement plans) to any person other than the Secretary with respect to the amount of payments made to such person, or

''(X) section 6047(d) (relating to reports by plan administrators) to any person other than the Secretary with respect to the amount of payments made to such person.''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF REPORTABLE DESIGNATED DISTRIBUTIONS.—

(1) SECTION 408.—Subsection (i) of section 408 (relating to individual retirement account reports) is amended by inserting ''aggregating $10 or more in any calendar year'' after ''distributions''.

(2) SECTION 6047.—Paragraph (1) of section 6047(d) (relating to reports by employers, plan administrators, etc.) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''No return or report may be required under the preceding sentence with respect to distributions to any person during any year unless such distributions aggregate $10 or more.''.

(c) QUALIFYING ROLLOVER DISTRIBUTIONS.—Section 6652(i) is amended—

(1) by striking ''the $10'' and inserting ''$100'', and

(2) by striking ''$5,000'' and inserting ''$50,000''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (1) of section 6047(f) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) For provisions relating to penalties for failures to file returns and reports required under this section, see sections 6652(e), 6721, and 6722.''.

(2) Subsection (e) of section 6652 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''This subsection shall not apply to any return or statement which is an information return described in section 6724(d)(1)(C)(ii) or a payee statement described in section 6724(d)(2)(X).''.

(3) Subsection (a) of section 6693 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''This subsection shall not apply to any report which is an information return described in section 6724(d)(1)(C)(i) or a payee statement described in section 6724(d)(2)(W).''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns, reports, and other statements the due date for which (determined without regard to extensions) is after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1456. RETIREMENT BENEFITS OF MINISTERS NOT SUBJECT TO TAX ON NET EARNINGS FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1402(a)(8) (defining net earning from self-employment) is amended by inserting '', but shall not include in such net earnings from self-employment the rental value of any parsonage or any parsonage allowance (whether or not excludable under section 107) provided after the individual retires, or any other retirement benefit received by such individual from a church plan (as defined in section 414(e)) after the individual retires'' before the semicolon at the end.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to years beginning before, on, or after December 31, 1994.

SEC. 1457. SAMPLE LANGUAGE FOR SPOUSAL CONSENT AND QUALIFIED DOMESTIC RELATIONS FORMS.

(a) DEVELOPMENT OF SAMPLE LANGUAGE.—Not later than January 1, 1997, the Secretary of the Treasury shall develop—

(1) sample language for inclusion in a form for the spousal consent required under section 417(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and section 205(c)(2) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 which—

(A) is written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average person, and

(B) discloses in plain form—

(i) whether the waiver to which the spouse consents is irrevocable, and

(ii) whether such waiver may be revoked by a qualified domestic relations order, and

(2) sample language for inclusion in a form for a qualified domestic relations order described in section 414(p)(1)(A) of such Code and section 206(d)(3)(B)(i) of such Act which—

(A) meets the requirements contained in such sections, and

(B) the provisions of which focus attention on the need to consider the treatment of any lump sum payment, qualified joint and survivor annuity, or qualified preretirement survivor annuity.

(b) PUBLICITY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall include publicity for the sample language developed under subsection (a) in the pension outreach efforts undertaken by the Secretary.

SEC. 1458. TREATMENT OF LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS TO VOLUNTEERS PERFORMING FIRE FIGHTING OR PREVENTION SERVICES, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, OR AMBULANCE SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (11) of section 457(e) (relating to deferred compensation plans of State and local governments and tax-exempt organizations) is amended to read as follows:

''(11) CERTAIN PLANS EXCLUDED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The following plans shall be treated as not providing for the deferral of compensation:

''(i) Any bona fide vacation leave, sick leave, compensatory time, severance pay, disability pay, or death benefit plan.

''(ii) Any plan paying solely length of service awards to bona fide volunteers (or their beneficiaries) on account of qualified services performed by such volunteers.

''(B) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PLANS.—

''(i) BONA FIDE VOLUNTEER.—An individual shall be treated as a bona fide volunteer for purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii) if the only compensation received by such individual for performing qualified services is in the form of—

''(I) reimbursement for (or a reasonable allowance for) reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of such services, or

''(II) reasonable benefits (including length of service awards), and nominal fees for such services, customarily paid by eligible employers in connection with the performance of such services by volunteers.

''(ii) LIMITATION ON ACCRUALS.—A plan shall not be treated as described in subparagraph (A)(ii) if the aggregate amount of length of service awards accruing with respect to any year of service for any bona fide volunteer exceeds $3,000.

''(C) QUALIFIED SERVICES.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'qualified services' means fire fighting and prevention services, emergency medical services, and ambulance services.''.

(b) EXEMPTION FROM SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES.—

(1) Subsection (a)(5) of section 3121, as amended by section 1421, is amended by striking ''(or)'' at the end of subparagraph (G), by inserting ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (H), and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(I) under a plan described in section 457(e)(11)(A)(ii) and maintained by an eligible employer (as defined in section 457(e)(1)).''.

(2) Section 209(a)(4) of the Social Security Act is amended by inserting ''; or (K) under a plan described in section 457(e)(11)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and maintained by an eligible employer (as defined in section 457(e)(1) of such Code)'' before the semicolon at the end thereof.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) SUBSECTION (a).—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to accruals of length of service awards after December 31, 1996.

(2) SUBSECTION (b).—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to remuneration paid after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1459. ALTERNATIVE NONDISCRIMINATION RULES FOR CERTAIN PLANS THAT PROVIDE FOR EARLY PARTICIPATION.

(a) CASH OR DEFERRED ARRANGEMENTS.—Paragraph (3) of section 401(k) (relating to application of participation and discrimination standards), as amended by section 1433(d)(1) of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) SPECIAL RULE FOR EARLY PARTICIPATION.—If an employer elects to apply section 410(b)(4)(B) in determining whether a cash or deferred arrangement meets the requirements of subparagraph (A)(i), the employer may, in determining whether the arrangement meets the requirements of subparagraph (A)(ii), exclude from consideration all eligible employees (other than highly compensated employees) who have not met the minimum age and service requirements of section 410(a)(1)(A).''.

(b) MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.—Paragraph (5) of section 401(m) (relating to employees taken into consideration) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR EARLY PARTICIPATION.—If an employer elects to apply section 410(b)(4)(B) in determining whether a plan meets the requirements of section 410(b), the employer may, in determining whether the plan meets the requirements of paragraph (2), exclude from consideration all eligible employees (other than highly compensated employees) who have not met the minimum age and service requirements of section 410(a)(1)(A).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 1998.

SEC. 1460. CLARIFICATION OF APPLICATION OF ERISA TO INSURANCE COMPANY GENERAL ACCOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1101) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c)(1)(A) Not later than June 30, 1997, the Secretary shall issue proposed regulations to provide guidance for the purpose of determining, in cases where an insurer issues 1 or more policies to or for the benefit of an employee benefit plan (and such policies are supported by assets of such insurer's general account), which assets held by the insurer (other than plan assets held in its separate accounts) constitute assets of the plan for purposes of this part and section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and to provide guidance with respect to the application of this title to the general account assets of insurers.

''(B) The proposed regulations under subparagraph (A) shall be subject to public notice and comment until September 30, 1997.

''(C) The Secretary shall issue final regulations providing the guidance described in subparagraph (A) not later than December 31, 1997.

''(D) Such regulations shall only apply with respect to policies which are issued by an insurer on or before December 31, 1998, to or for the benefit of an employee benefit plan which is supported by assets of such insurer's general account. With respect to policies issued on or before December 31, 1998, such regulations shall take effect at the end of the 18-month period following the date on which such regulations become final.

''(2) The Secretary shall ensure that the regulations issued under paragraph (1)—

''(A) are administratively feasible, and

''(B) protect the interests and rights of the plan and of its participants and beneficiaries (including meeting the requirements of paragraph (3)).

''(3) The regulations prescribed by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (1) shall require, in connection with any policy issued by an insurer to or for the benefit of an employee benefit plan to the extent that the policy is not a guaranteed benefit policy (as defined in subsection (b)(2)(B))—

''(A) that a plan fiduciary totally independent of the insurer authorize the purchase of such policy (unless such purchase is a transaction exempt under section 408(b)(5)),

''(B) that the insurer describe (in such form and manner as shall be prescribed in such regulations), in annual reports and in policies issued to the policyholder after the date on which such regulations are issued in final form pursuant to paragraph (1)(C) —

''(i) a description of the method by which any income and expenses of the insurer's general account are allocated to the policy during the term of the policy and upon the termination of the policy, and

''(ii) for each report, the actual return to the plan under the policy and such other financial information as the Secretary may deem appropriate for the period covered by each such annual report,

''(C) that the insurer disclose to the plan fiduciary the extent to which alternative arrangements supported by assets of separate accounts of the insurer (which generally hold plan assets) are available, whether there is a right under the policy to transfer funds to a separate account and the terms governing any such right, and the extent to which support by assets of the insurer's general account and support by assets of separate accounts of the insurer might pose differing risks to the plan, and

''(D) that the insurer manage those assets of the insurer which are assets of such insurer's general account (irrespective of whether any such assets are plan assets) with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent man acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims, taking into account all obligations supported by such enterprise.

''(4) Compliance by the insurer with all requirements of the regulations issued by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be deemed compliance by such insurer with sections 404, 406, and 407 with respect to those assets of the insurer's general account which support a policy described in paragraph (3).

''(5)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), any regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall not take effect before the date on which such regulations become final.

''(B) No person shall be subject to liability under this part or section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for conduct which occurred before the date which is 18 months following the date described in subparagraph (A) on the basis of a claim that the assets of an insurer (other than plan assets held in a separate account) constitute assets of the plan, except—

''(i) as otherwise provided by the Secretary in regulations intended to prevent avoidance of the regulations issued under paragraph (1), or

''(ii) as provided in an action brought by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (2) or (5) of section 502(a) for a breach of fiduciary responsibilities which would also constitute a violation of Federal or State criminal law.

The Secretary shall bring a cause of action described in clause (ii) if a participant, beneficiary, or fiduciary demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that a breach described in clause (ii) has occurred.

''(6) Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the application of any Federal criminal law.

''(7) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'policy' includes a contract.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 1975.

(2) CIVIL ACTIONS.—The amendment made by this section shall not apply to any civil action commenced before November 7, 1995.

SEC. 1461. SPECIAL RULES FOR CHAPLAINS AND SELF-EMPLOYED MINISTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 414(e) (defining church plan) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) SPECIAL RULES FOR CHAPLAINS AND SELF-EMPLOYED MINISTERS.—

''(A) CERTAIN MINISTERS MAY PARTICIPATE.—For purposes of this part—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An employee of a church or a convention or association of churches shall include a duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister of a church who, in connection with the exercise of his or her ministry—

''(I) is a self-employed individual (within the meaning of section 401(c)(1)(B)), or

''(II) is employed by an organization other than an organization described in section 501(c)(3).

''(ii) TREATMENT AS EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE.—

''(I) SELF-EMPLOYED.—A minister described in clause (i)(I) shall be treated as his or her own employer which is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) and which is exempt from tax under section 501(a).

''(II) OTHERS.—A minister described in clause (i)(II) shall be treated as employed by an organization described in section 501(c)(3) and exempt from tax under section 501(a).

''(B) SPECIAL RULES FOR APPLYING SECTION 403(b) TO SELF-EMPLOYED MINISTERS.—In the case of a minister described in subparagraph (A)(i)(I)—

''(i) the minister's includible compensation under section 403(b)(3) shall be determined by reference to the minister's earned income (within the meaning of section 401(c)(2)) from such ministry rather than the amount of compensation which is received from an employer, and

''(ii) the years (and portions of years) in which such minister was a self-employed individual (within the meaning of section 401(c)(1)(B)) with respect to such ministry shall be included for purposes of section 403(b)(4).

''(C) EFFECT ON NON-DENOMINATIONAL PLANS.—If a duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister of a church in the exercise of his or her ministry participates in a church plan (within the meaning of this section) and in the exercise of such ministry is employed by an employer not eligible to participate in such church plan, then such employer may exclude such minister from being treated as an employee of such employer for purposes of applying sections 401(a)(3), 401(a)(4), and 401(a)(5), as in effect on September 1, 1974, and sections 401(a)(4), 401(a)(5), 401(a)(26), 401(k)(3), 401(m), 403(b)(1)(D) (including section 403(b)(12)), and 410 to any stock bonus, pension, profit-sharing, or annuity plan (including an annuity described in section 403(b) or a retirement income account described in section 403(b)(9)). The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purpose of, and prevent the abuse of, this subparagraph.

''(D) COMPENSATION TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ONLY ONCE.—If any compensation is taken into account in determining the amount of any contributions made to, or benefits to be provided under, any church plan, such compensation shall not also be taken into account in determining the amount of any contributions made to, or benefits to be provided under, any other stock bonus, pension, profit-sharing, or annuity plan which is not a church plan.''

(b) CONTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN MINISTERS TO RETIREMENT INCOME ACCOUNTS.—Section 404(a) (relating to deduction for contributions of an employer to an employees' trust or annuity plan and compensation under a deferred-payment plan) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(10) CONTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN MINISTERS TO RETIREMENT INCOME ACCOUNTS.—In the case of contributions made by a minister described in section 414(e)(5) to a retirement income account described in section 403(b)(9) and not by a person other than such minister, such contributions—

''(A) shall be treated as made to a trust which is exempt from tax under section 501(a) and which is part of a plan which is described in section 401(a), and

''(B) shall be deductible under this subsection to the extent such contributions do not exceed the limit on elective deferrals under section 402(g), the exclusion allowance under section 403(b)(2), or the limit on annual additions under section 415.

For purposes of this paragraph, all plans in which the minister is a participant shall be treated as one plan.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1462. DEFINITION OF HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEE FOR PRE-ERISA RULES FOR CHURCH PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 414(q) (defining highly compensated employee), as amended by section 1431(c)(1)(A) of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) CERTAIN EMPLOYEES NOT CONSIDERED HIGHLY COMPENSATED AND EXCLUDED EMPLOYEES UNDER PRE-ERISA RULES FOR CHURCH PLANS.—In the case of a church plan (as defined in subsection (e)), no employee shall be considered an officer, a person whose principal duties consist of supervising the work of other employees, or a highly compensated employee for any year unless such employee is a highly compensated employee under paragraph (1) for such year.''.

(b) SAFEHARBOR AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Treasury may design nondiscrimination and coverage safe harbors for church plans.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1463. RULE RELATING TO INVESTMENT IN CONTRACT NOT TO APPLY TO FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The last sentence of section 72(f) is amended by inserting '', or to the extent such credits are attributable to services performed as a foreign missionary (within the meaning of section 403(b)(2)(D)(iii))'' before the end period.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1464. WAIVER OF EXCISE TAX ON FAILURE TO PAY LIQUIDITY SHORTFALL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4971(f) (relating to failure to pay liquidity shortfall) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) WAIVER BY SECRETARY.—If the taxpayer establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary that—

''(A) the liquidity shortfall described in paragraph (1) was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, and

''(B) reasonable steps have been taken to remedy such liquidity shortfall,

the Secretary may waive all or part of the tax imposed by this subsection.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendment made by clause (ii) of section 751(a)(9)(B) of the Retirement Protection Act of 1994 (108 Stat. 5020).

SEC. 1465. DATE FOR ADOPTION OF PLAN AMENDMENTS.

If any amendment made by this subtitle requires an amendment to any plan or annuity contract, such amendment shall not be required to be made before the first day of the first plan year beginning on or after January 1, 1998, if—

(1) during the period after such amendment takes effect and before such first plan year, the plan or contract is operated in accordance with the requirements of such amendment, and

(2) such amendment applies retroactively to such period.

In the case of a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), this section shall be applied by substituting ''2000'' for ''1998''.

Subtitle E—Foreign Simplification

SEC. 1501. REPEAL OF INCLUSION OF CERTAIN EARNINGS INVESTED IN EXCESS PASSIVE ASSETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) REPEAL OF INCLUSION.—Paragraph (1) of section 951(a) (relating to amounts included in gross income of United States shareholders) is

amended by striking subparagraph (C), by striking ''; and'' at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting a period, and by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A).

(2) REPEAL OF INCLUSION AMOUNT.—Section 956A (relating to earnings invested in excess passive assets) is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subparagraph (G) of section 904(d)(3), as amended by section 1703(i)(1), is amended by striking ''subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 951(a)(1)'' and inserting ''section 951(a)(1)(B)''.

(1) Paragraph (1) of section 956(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) APPLICABLE EARNINGS.—For purposes of this section, the term 'applicable earnings' means, with respect to any controlled foreign corporation, the sum of—

''(A) the amount (not including a deficit) referred to in section 316(a)(1), and

''(B) the amount referred to in section 316(a)(2),

but reduced by distributions made during the taxable year and by earnings and profits described in section 959(c)(1).''.

(2) Paragraph (3) of section 956(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) SPECIAL RULE WHERE CORPORATION CEASES TO BE CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATION.—If any foreign corporation ceases to be a controlled foreign corporation during any taxable year—

''(A) the determination of any United States shareholder's pro rata share shall be made on the basis of stock owned (within the meaning of section 958(a)) by such shareholder on the last day during the taxable year on which the foreign corporation is a controlled foreign corporation,

''(B) the average referred to in subsection (a)(1)(A) for such taxable year shall be determined by only taking into account quarters ending on or before such last day, and

''(C) in determining applicable earnings, the amount taken into account by reason of being described in paragraph (2) of section 316(a) shall be the portion of the amount so described which is allocable (on a pro rata basis) to the part of such year during which the corporation is a controlled foreign corporation.''..

(3) Subsection (a) of section 959 (relating to exclusion from gross income of previously taxed earnings and profits) is amended by adding ''or'' at the end of paragraph (1), by striking ''or'' at the end of paragraph (2), and by striking paragraph (3).

(4) Subsection (a) of section 959 is amended by striking ''paragraphs (2) and (3)'' in the last sentence and inserting ''paragraph (2)''.

(5) Subsection (c) of section 959 is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''References in this subsection to section 951(a)(1)(C) and subsection (a)(3) shall be treated as references to such provisions as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996.''.

(6) Paragraph (1) of section 959(f) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, amounts that would be included under subparagraph (B) of section 951(a)(1) (determined without regard to this section) shall be treated as attributable first to earnings described in subsection (c)(2), and then to earnings described in subsection (c)(3).''.

(7) Paragraph (2) of section 959(f) is amended by striking ''subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 951(a)(1)'' and inserting ''section 951(a)(1)(B)''.

(8) Subsection (b) of section 989 is amended by striking ''subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 951(a)(1)'' and inserting ''section 951(a)(1)(B)''.

(9) Paragraph (9) of section 1297(b) is amended by striking ''subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 951(a)(1)'' and inserting ''section 951(a)(1)(B)''.

(10) Subsections (d)(3)(B) and (e)(2)(B)(ii) of section 1297 are each amended by striking ''or section 956A''.

(11) Subparagraph (G) of section 904(d)(3) is amended by striking ''subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 951(a)(1)'' and inserting ''section 951(a)(1)(B)''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 956A.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 1996, and to taxable years of United States shareholders within which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

Subtitle F—Revenue Offsets

PART I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 1601. TERMINATION OF PUERTO RICO AND POSSESSION TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 936 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) TERMINATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, this section shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

''(2) TRANSITION RULES FOR ACTIVE BUSINESS INCOME CREDIT.—Except as provided in paragraph (3)—

''(A) ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CREDIT.—In the case of an existing credit claimant—

''(i) with respect to a possession other than Puerto Rico, and

''(ii) to which subsection (a)(4)(B) does not apply,

the credit determined under subsection (a)(1)(A) shall be allowed for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, and before January 1, 2002.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR REDUCED CREDIT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an existing credit claimant to which subsection (a)(4)(B) applies, the credit determined under subsection (a)(1)(A) shall be allowed for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, and before January 1, 1998.

''(ii) ELECTION IRREVOCABLE AFTER 1997.—An election under subsection (a)(4)(B)(iii) which is in effect for the taxpayer's last taxable year beginning before 1997 may not be revoked unless it is revoked for the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning in 1997 and all subsequent taxable years.

''(C) ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CREDIT FOR PUERTO RICO.—

''For economic activity credit for Puerto Rico, see section 30A.

''(3) ADDITIONAL RESTRICTED CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an existing credit claimant—

''(i) the credit under subsection (a)(1)(A) shall be allowed for the period beginning with the first taxable year after the last taxable year to which subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (2), whichever is appropriate, applied and ending with the last taxable year beginning before January 1, 2006, except that

''(ii) the aggregate amount of taxable income taken into account under subsection (a)(1)(A) for any such taxable year shall not exceed the adjusted base period income of such claimant.

''(B) COORDINATION WITH SUBSECTION (a)(4).—The amount of income described in subsection (a)(1)(A) which is taken into account in applying subsection (a)(4) shall be such income as reduced under this paragraph.

''(4) ADJUSTED BASE PERIOD INCOME.—For purposes of paragraph (3)—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'adjusted base period income' means the average of the inflation-adjusted possession incomes of the corporation for each base period year.

''(B) INFLATION-ADJUSTED POSSESSION INCOME.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the inflation-adjusted possession income of any corporation for any base period year shall be an amount equal to the sum of—

''(i) the possession income of such corporation for such base period year, plus

''(ii) such possession income multiplied by the inflation adjustment percentage for such base period year.

''(C) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), the inflation adjustment percentage for any base period year means the percentage (if any) by which—

''(i) the CPI for 1995, exceeds

''(ii) the CPI for the calendar year in which the base period year for which the determination is being made ends.

For purposes of the preceding sentence, the CPI for any calendar year is the CPI (as defined in section 1(f)(5)) for such year under section 1(f)(4).

''(D) INCREASE IN INFLATION ADJUSTMENT PERCENTAGE FOR GROWTH DURING BASE YEARS.—The inflation adjustment percentage (determined under subparagraph (C) without regard to this subparagraph) for each of the 5 taxable years referred to in paragraph (5)(A) shall be increased by—

''(i) 5 percentage points in the case of a taxable year ending during the 1-year period ending on October 13, 1995;

''(ii) 10.25 percentage points in the case of a taxable year ending during the 1-year period ending on October 13, 1994;

''(iii) 15.76 percentage points in the case of a taxable year ending during the 1-year period ending on October 13, 1993;

''(iv) 21.55 percentage points in the case of a taxable year ending during the 1-year period ending on October 13, 1992; and

''(v) 27.63 percentage points in the case of a taxable year ending during the 1-year period ending on October 13, 1991.

''(5) BASE PERIOD YEAR.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'base period year' means each of 3 taxable years which are among the 5 most recent taxable years of the corporation ending before October 14, 1995, determined by disregarding—

''(i) one taxable year for which the corporation had the largest inflation-adjusted possession income, and

''(ii) one taxable year for which the corporation had the smallest inflation-adjusted possession income.

''(B) CORPORATIONS NOT HAVING SIGNIFICANT POSSESSION INCOME THROUGHOUT 5-YEAR PERIOD.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If a corporation does not have significant possession income for each of the most recent 5 taxable years ending before October 14, 1995, then, in lieu of applying subparagraph (A), the term 'base period year' means only those taxable years (of such 5 taxable years) for which the corporation has significant possession income; except that, if such corporation has significant possession income for 4 of such 5 taxable years, the rule of subparagraph (A)(ii) shall apply.

''(ii) SPECIAL RULE.—If there is no year (of such 5 taxable years) for which a corporation has significant possession income—

''(I) the term 'base period year' means the first taxable year ending on or after October 14, 1995, but

''(II) the amount of possession income for such year which is taken into account under paragraph (4) shall be the amount which would be determined if such year were a short taxable year ending on September 30, 1995.

''(iii) SIGNIFICANT POSSESSION INCOME.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term 'significant possession income' means possession income which exceeds 2 percent of the possession income of the taxpayer for the taxable year (of the period of 6 taxable years ending with the first taxable year ending on or after October 14, 1995) having the greatest possession income.

''(C) ELECTION TO USE ONE BASE PERIOD YEAR.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—At the election of the taxpayer, the term 'base period year' means—

''(I) only the last taxable year of the corporation ending in calendar year 1992, or

''(II) a deemed taxable year which includes the first ten months of calendar year 1995.

''(ii) BASE PERIOD INCOME FOR 1995.—In determining the adjusted base period income of the corporation for the deemed taxable year under clause (i)(II), the possession income shall be annualized and shall be determined without regard to any extraordinary item.

''(iii) ELECTION.—An election under this subparagraph by any possession corporation may be made only for the corporation's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, for which it is a possession corporation. The rules of subclauses (II) and (III) of subsection (a)(4)(B)(iii) shall apply to the election under this subparagraph.

''(D) ACQUISITIONS AND DISPOSITIONS.—Rules similar to the rules of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 41(f)(3) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.

''(6) POSSESSION INCOME.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'possession income' means, with respect to any possession, the income referred to in subsection (a)(1)(A) determined with respect to that possession. In no event shall possession income be treated as being less than zero.

''(7) SHORT YEARS.—If the current year or a base period year is a short taxable year, the application of this subsection shall be made with such annualizations as the Secretary shall prescribe.

''(8) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN POSSESSIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an existing credit claimant with respect to an applicable possession, this section (other than the preceding paragraphs of this subsection) shall apply to such claimant with respect to such applicable possession for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, and before January 1, 2006.

''(B) APPLICABLE POSSESSION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'applicable possession' means Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

''(9) EXISTING CREDIT CLAIMANT.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'existing credit claimant' means a corporation—

''(i)(I) which was actively conducting a trade or business in a possession on October 13, 1995, and

''(II) with respect to which an election under this section is in effect for the corporation's taxable year which includes October 13, 1995, or

''(ii) which acquired all of the assets of a trade or business of a corporation which—

''(I) satisfied the requirements of subclause (I) of clause (i) with respect to such trade or business, and

''(II) satisfied the requirements of subclause (II) of clause (i).

''(B) NEW LINES OF BUSINESS PROHIBITED.—If, after October 13, 1995, a corporation which would (but for this subparagraph) be an existing credit claimant adds a substantial new line of business (other than in an acquisition described in subparagraph (A)(ii)), such corporation shall cease to be treated as an existing credit claimant as of the close of the taxable year ending before the date of such addition.

''(C) BINDING CONTRACT EXCEPTION.—If, on October 13, 1995, and at all times thereafter, there is in effect with respect to a corporation a binding contract for the acquisition of assets to be used in, or for the sale of assets to be produced from, a trade or business, the corporation shall be treated for purposes of this paragraph as actively conducting such trade or business on October 13, 1995. The preceding sentence shall not apply if such trade or business is not actively conducted before January 1, 1996.

''(10) SEPARATE APPLICATION TO EACH POSSESSION.—For purposes of determining—

''(A) whether a taxpayer is an existing credit claimant, and

''(B) the amount of the credit allowed under this section,

this subsection (and so much of this section as relates to this subsection) shall be applied separately with respect to each possession.''.

(b) ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CREDIT FOR PUERTO RICO.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 30A. PUERTO RICAN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CREDIT.

''(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, if the conditions of both paragraph (1) and paragraph (2) of subsection (b) are satisfied with respect to a qualified domestic corporation, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter an amount equal to the portion of the tax which is attributable to the taxable income, from sources without the United States, from—

''(A) the active conduct of a trade or business within Puerto Rico, or

''(B) the sale or exchange of substantially all of the assets used by the taxpayer in the active conduct of such trade or business.

In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2001, the aggregate amount of taxable income taken into account under the preceding sentence (and in applying subsection (d)) shall not exceed the adjusted base period income of such corporation, as determined in the same manner as under section 936(j).

''(2) QUALIFIED DOMESTIC CORPORATION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'qualified domestic corporation' means a domestic corporation—

''(A) which is an existing credit claimant with respect to Puerto Rico, and

''(B) with respect to which section 936(a)(4)(B) does not apply for the taxable year.

''(3) SEPARATE APPLICATION.—For purposes of determining—

''(A) whether a taxpayer is an existing credit claimant with respect to Puerto Rico, and

''(B) the amount of the credit allowed under this section,

this section (and so much of section 936 as relates to this section) shall be applied separately with respect to Puerto Rico.

''(b) CONDITIONS WHICH MUST BE SATISFIED.—The conditions referred to in subsection (a) are—

''(1) 3-YEAR PERIOD.—If 80 percent or more of the gross income of the qualified domestic corporation for the 3-year period immediately preceding the close of the taxable year (or for such part of such period immediately preceding the close of such taxable year as may be applicable) was derived from sources within a possession (determined without regard to section 904(f)).

''(2) TRADE OR BUSINESS.—If 75 percent or more of the gross income of the qualified domestic corporation for such period or such part thereof was derived from the active conduct of a trade or business within a possession.

''(c) CREDIT NOT ALLOWED AGAINST CERTAIN TAXES.—The credit provided by subsection (a) shall not be allowed against the tax imposed by—

''(1) section 59A (relating to environmental tax),

''(2) section 531 (relating to the tax on accumulated earnings),

''(3) section 541 (relating to personal holding company tax), or

''(4) section 1351 (relating to recoveries of foreign expropriation losses).

''(d) LIMITATIONS ON CREDIT FOR ACTIVE BUSINESS INCOME.—The amount of the credit determined under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed the sum of the following amounts:

''(1) 60 percent of the sum of—

''(A) the aggregate amount of the qualified domestic corporation's qualified possession wages for such taxable year, plus

''(B) the allocable employee fringe benefit expenses of the qualified domestic corporation for such taxable year.

''(2) The sum of—

''(A) 15 percent of the depreciation allowances for the taxable year with respect to short-life qualified tangible property,

''(B) 40 percent of the depreciation allowances for the taxable year with respect to medium-life qualified tangible property, and

''(C) 65 percent of the depreciation allowances for the taxable year with respect to long-life qualified tangible property.

''(3) If the qualified domestic corporation does not have an election to use the method described in section 936(h)(5)(C)(ii) (relating to profit split) in effect for the taxable year, the amount of the qualified possession income taxes for the taxable year allocable to nonsheltered income.

''(e) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—For purposes of this title—

''(1) the provisions of section 936 (including any applicable election thereunder) shall apply in the same manner as if the credit under this section were a credit under section 936(a)(1)(A) for a domestic corporation to which section 936(a)(4)(A) applies,

''(2) the credit under this section shall be treated in the same manner as the credit under section 936, and

''(3) a corporation to which this section applies shall be treated in the same manner as if it were a corporation electing the application of section 936.

''(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, any term used in this section which is also used in section 936 shall have the same meaning given such term by section 936.

''(g) APPLICATION OF SECTION.—This section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, and before January 1, 2006.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraph (1) of section 55(c) is amended by striking ''and the section 936 credit allowable under section 27(b)'' and inserting '', the section 936 credit allowable under section 27(b), and the Puerto Rican economic activity credit under section 30A''.

(B) Subclause (I) of section 56(g)(4)(C)(ii) is amended—

(i) by inserting ''30A,'' before ''936'', and

(ii) by striking ''and (i)'' and inserting '', (i), and (j)''.

(C) Clause (iii) of section 56(g)(4)(C) is amended by adding at the end the following new subclause:

''(VI) APPLICATION TO SECTION 30A CORPORATIONS.—References in this clause to section 936 shall be treated as including references to section 30A.''.

(D) Subsection (b) of section 59 is amended by striking ''section 936,'' and all that follows and inserting ''section 30A or 936, alternative minimum taxable income shall not include any income with respect to which a credit is determined under section 30A or 936.''.

(E) The table of sections for subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 30A. Puerto Rican economic activity credit.''.

(F)(i) The heading for subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended to read as follows:

''Subpart B—Other Credits''.

(ii) The table of subparts for part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to subpart B and inserting the following new item:

''Subpart B. Other credits.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR QUALIFIED POSSESSION SOURCE INVESTMENT INCOME.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to qualified possession source investment income received or accrued before July 1, 1996, without regard to the taxable year in which received or accrued.

(3) SPECIAL TRANSITION RULE FOR PAYMENT OF ESTIMATED TAX INSTALLMENT.—In determining the amount of any installment due under section 6655 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 after the date of the enactment of this Act and before October 1, 1996, only ½ of any increase in tax (for the taxable year for which such installment is made) by reason of the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall be taken into account. Any reduction in such installment by reason of the preceding sentence shall be recaptured by increasing the next required installment for such year by the amount of such reduction.

SEC. 1602. REPEAL OF EXCLUSION FOR INTEREST ON LOANS USED TO ACQUIRE EMPLOYER SECURITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 133 (relating to interest on certain loans used to acquire employer securities) is hereby repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subparagraph (B) of section 291(e)(1) is amended by striking clause (iv) and by redesignating clause (v) as clause (iv).

(2) Section 812 is amended by striking subsection (g).

(3) Paragraph (5) of section 852(b) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(4) Paragraph (2) of section 4978(b) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and all that follows and inserting the following:

''(A) first from qualified securities to which section 1042 applied acquired during the 3-year period ending on the date of the disposition, beginning with the securities first so acquired, and

''(B) then from any other employer securities.

If subsection (d) applies to a disposition, the disposition shall be treated as made from employer securities in the opposite order of the preceding sentence.''.

(5)(A) Section 4978B (relating to tax on disposition of employer securities to which section 133 applied) is hereby repealed.

(B) The table of sections for chapter 43 is amended by striking the item relating to section 4978B.

(6) Subsection (e) of section 6047 is amended by striking paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

''(1) any employer maintaining, or the plan administrator (within the meaning of section 414(g)) of, an employee stock ownership plan which holds stock with respect to which section 404(k) applies to dividends paid on such stock, or

''(2) both such employer or plan administrator,''.

(7) Subsection (f) of section 7872 is amended by striking paragraph (12).

(8) The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 133.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to loans made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) REFINANCINGS.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to loans made after the date of the enactment of this Act to refinance securities acquisition loans (determined without regard to section 133(b)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act) made on or before such date or to refinance loans described in this paragraph if—

(A) the refinancing loans meet the requirements of section 133 of such Code (as so in effect),

(B) immediately after the refinancing the principal amount of the loan resulting from the refinancing does not exceed the principal amount of the refinanced loan (immediately before the refinancing), and

(C) the term of such refinancing loan does not extend beyond the last day of the term of the original securities acquisition loan.

For purposes of this paragraph, the term ''securities acquisition loan'' includes a loan from a corporation to an employee stock ownership plan described in section 133(b)(3) of such Code (as so in effect).

(3) EXCEPTION.—Any loan made pursuant to a binding written contract in effect before June 10, 1996, and at all times thereafter before such loan is made, shall be treated for purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2) as a loan made on or before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1603. CERTAIN AMOUNTS DERIVED FROM FOREIGN CORPORATIONS TREATED AS UNRELATED BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subsection (b) of section 512 (relating to modifications) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(17) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS DERIVED FROM FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), any amount included in gross income under section 951(a)(1)(A) shall be included as an item of gross income derived from an unrelated trade or business to the extent the amount so included is attributable to insurance income (as defined in section 953) which, if derived directly by the organization, would be treated as gross income from an unrelated trade or business. There shall be allowed all deductions directly connected with amounts included in gross income under the preceding sentence.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to income attributable to a policy of insurance or reinsurance with respect to which the person (directly or indirectly) insured is—

''(I) such organization,

''(II) an affiliate of such organization which is exempt from tax under section 501(a), or

''(III) a director or officer of, or an individual who (directly or indirectly) performs services for, such organization or affiliate but only if the insurance covers primarily risks associated with the performance of services in connection with such organization or affiliate.

''(ii) AFFILIATE.—For purposes of this subparagraph—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The determination as to whether an entity is an affiliate of an organization shall be made under rules similar to the rules of section 168(h)(4)(B).

''(II) SPECIAL RULE.—Two or more organizations (and any affiliates of such organizations) shall be treated as affiliates if such organizations are colleges or universities described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) or organizations described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii) and participate in an insurance arrangement that provides for any profits from such arrangement to be returned to the policyholders in their capacity as such.

''(C) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this paragraph, including regulations for the application of this paragraph in the case of income paid through 1 or more entities or between 2 or more chains of entities.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to amounts included in gross income in any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

SEC. 1604. DEPRECIATION UNDER INCOME FORECAST METHOD.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Section 167 (relating to depreciation) is amended by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h) and by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

''(g) DEPRECIATION UNDER INCOME FORECAST METHOD.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the depreciation deduction allowable under this section to any taxpayer with respect to any property is determined under the income forecast method or any similar method—

''(A) the income from the property to be taken into account in determining the depreciation deduction under such method shall be equal to the amount of income earned in connection with the property before the close of the 10th taxable year following the taxable year in which the property was placed in service,

''(B) the adjusted basis of the property shall only include amounts with respect to which the requirements of section 461(h) are satisfied,

''(C) the depreciation deduction under such method for the 10th taxable year beginning after the taxable year in which the property was placed in service shall be equal to the adjusted basis of such property as of the beginning of such 10th taxable year, and

''(D) such taxpayer shall pay (or be entitled to receive) interest computed under the look-back method of paragraph (2) for any recomputation year.

''(2) LOOK-BACK METHOD.—The interest computed under the look-back method of this paragraph for any recomputation year shall be determined by—

''(A) first determining the depreciation deductions under this section with respect to such property which would have been allowable for prior taxable years if the determination of the amounts so allowable had been made on the basis of the sum of the following (instead of the estimated income from such property)—

''(i) the actual income earned in connection with such property for periods before the close of the recomputation year, and

''(ii) an estimate of the future income to be earned in connection with such property for periods after the recomputation year and before the close of the 10th taxable year following the taxable year in which the property was placed in service,

''(B) second, determining (solely for purposes of computing such interest) the overpayment or underpayment of tax for each such prior taxable year which would result solely from the application of subparagraph (A), and

''(C) then using the adjusted overpayment rate (as defined in section 460(b)(7)), compounded daily, on the overpayment or underpayment determined under subparagraph (B).

For purposes of the preceding sentence, any cost incurred after the property is placed in service (which is not treated as a separate property under paragraph (5)) shall be taken into account by discounting (using the Federal midterm rate determined under section 1274(d) as of the time such cost is incurred) such cost to its value as of the date the property is placed in service. The taxpayer may elect with respect to any property to have the preceding sentence not apply to such property.

''(3) EXCEPTION FROM LOOK-BACK METHOD.—Paragraph (1)(D) shall not apply with respect to any property which had a cost basis of $100,000 or less.

''(4) RECOMPUTATION YEAR.—For purposes of this subsection, except as provided in regulations, the term 'recomputation year' means, with respect to any property, the 3d and the 10th taxable years beginning after the taxable year in which the property was placed in service, unless the actual income earned in connection with the property for the period before the close of such 3d or 10th taxable year is within 10 percent of the income earned in connection with the property for such period which was taken into account under paragraph (1)(A).

''(5) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(A) CERTAIN COSTS TREATED AS SEPARATE PROPERTY.—For purposes of this subsection, the following costs shall be treated as separate properties:

''(i) Any costs incurred with respect to any property after the 10th taxable year beginning after the taxable year in which the property was placed in service.

''(ii) Any costs incurred after the property is placed in service and before the close of such 10th taxable year if such costs are significant and give rise to a significant increase in the income from the property which was not included in the estimated income from the property.

''(B) SYNDICATION INCOME FROM TELEVISION SERIES.—In the case of property which is 1 or more episodes in a television series, income from syndicating such series shall not be required to be taken into account under this subsection before the earlier of—

''(i) the 4th taxable year beginning after the date the first episode in such series is placed in service, or

''(ii) the earliest taxable year in which the taxpayer has an arrangement relating to the future syndication of such series.

''(C) SPECIAL RULES FOR FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION OF CHARACTERS, ETC.—For purposes of this subsection, in the case of television and motion picture films, the income from the property shall include income from the exploitation of characters, designs, scripts, scores, and other incidental income associated with such films, but only to the extent that such income is earned in connection with the ultimate use of such items by, or the ultimate sale of merchandise to, persons who are not related persons (within the meaning of section 267(b)) to the taxpayer.

''(D) COLLECTION OF INTEREST.—For purposes of subtitle F (other than sections 6654 and 6655), any interest required to be paid by the taxpayer under paragraph (1) for any recomputation year shall be treated as an increase in the tax imposed by this chapter for such year.

''(E) DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of paragraph (2), determinations of the amount of income earned in connection with any property shall be made in the same manner as for purposes of applying the income forecast method; except that any income from the disposition of such property shall be taken into account.

''(F) TREATMENT OF PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—Rules similar to the rules of section 460(b)(4) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to property placed in service after September 13, 1995.

(2) BINDING CONTRACTS.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall not apply to any property produced or acquired by the taxpayer pursuant to a written contract which was binding on September 13, 1995, and at all times thereafter before such production or acquisition.

(3) UNDERPAYMENTS OF INCOME TAX.—No addition to tax shall be made under section 6662 of such Code as a result of the application of subsection (d) of that section (relating to substantial understatements of income tax) with respect to any underpayment of income tax for any taxable year ending before such date of enactment, to the extent such underpayment was created or increased by the amendments made by subsection (a).

SEC. 1605. REPEAL OF EXCLUSION FOR PUNITIVE DAMAGES AND FOR DAMAGES NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO PHYSICAL INJURIES OR SICKNESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 104(a) (relating to compensation for injuries or sickness) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) the amount of any damages (other than punitive damages) received (whether by suit or agreement and whether as lump sums or as periodic payments) on account of personal physical injuries or physical sickness;''.

(b) EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AS SUCH TREATED AS NOT PHYSICAL INJURY OR PHYSICAL SICKNESS.—Section 104(a) is amended by striking the last sentence and inserting the following new sentence: ''For purposes of paragraph (2), emotional distress shall not be treated as a physical injury or physical sickness. The preceding sentence shall not apply to an amount of damages not in excess of the amount paid for medical care (described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 213(d)(1)) attributable to emotional distress.''.

(c) APPLICATION OF PRIOR LAW FOR STATES IN WHICH ONLY PUNITIVE DAMAGES MAY BE AWARDED IN WRONGFUL DEATH ACTIONS.—Section 104 is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) APPLICATION OF PRIOR LAW IN CERTAIN CASES.—The phrase '(other than punitive damages)' shall not apply to punitive damages awarded in a civil action—

''(1) which is a wrongful death action, and

''(2) with respect to which applicable State law (as in effect on September 13, 1995 and without regard to any modification after such date) provides, or has been construed to provide by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to a decision issued on or before September 13, 1995, that only punitive damages may be awarded in such an action.

This subsection shall cease to apply to any civil action filed on or after the first date on which the applicable State law ceases to provide (or is no longer construed to provide) the treatment described in paragraph (2).''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts received after the date of the enactment of this Act, in taxable years ending after such date.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to any amount received under a written binding agreement, court decree, or mediation award in effect on (or issued on or before) September 13, 1995.

SEC. 1606. REPEAL OF DIESEL FUEL TAX REBATE TO PURCHASERS OF DIESEL-POWERED AUTOMOBILES AND LIGHT TRUCKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6427 (relating to fuels not used for taxable purposes) is amended by striking subsection (g).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (3) of section 34(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) under section 6427 with respect to fuels used for nontaxable purposes or resold during the taxable year (determined without regard to section 6427(k)).''.

(2) Paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) of section 6427(i) are each amended—

(A) by striking ''(g),'', and

(B) by striking ''(or a qualified diesel powered highway vehicle purchased)'' each place it appears.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to vehicles purchased after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1607. EXTENSION AND PHASEDOWN OF LUXURY PASSENGER AUTOMOBILE TAX.

(a) EXTENSION.—Subsection (f) of section 4001 is amended by striking ''1999'' and inserting ''2002''.

(b) PHASEDOWN.—Section 4001 is amended by redesignating subsection (f) (as amended by subsection (a) of this section) as subsection (g) and by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

''(f) PHASEDOWN.—For sales occurring in calendar years after 1995 and before 2003, subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting for '10 percent' the percentage determined in accordance with the following table:

''If the calendar year is:	The percentage is:
1996	9 percent
1997	8 percent
1998	7 percent
1999	6 percent
2000	5 percent
2001	4 percent
2002	3 percent.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to sales occurring after the date which is 7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1608. TERMINATION OF FUTURE TAX-EXEMPT BOND FINANCING FOR LOCAL FURNISHERS OF ELECTRICITY AND GAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 142(f) (relating to local furnishing of electric energy or gas) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(3) TERMINATION OF FUTURE FINANCING.—For purposes of this section, no bond may be issued as part of an issue described in subsection (a)(8) with respect to a facility for the local furnishing of electric energy or gas on or after the date of the enactment of this paragraph unless—

''(A) the facility will—

''(i) be used by a person who is engaged in the local furnishing of that energy source on January 1, 1997, and

''(ii) be used to provide service within the area served by such person on January 1, 1997, (or within a county or city any portion of which is within such area), or

''(B) the facility will be used by a successor in interest to such person for the same use and within the same service area as described in subparagraph (A).

''(4) ELECTION TO TERMINATE TAX-EXEMPT BOND FINANCING BY CERTAIN FURNISHERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a facility financed with bonds issued before the date of the enactment of this paragraph which would cease to be tax-exempt by reason of the failure to meet the local furnishing requirement of subsection (a)(8) as a result of a service area expansion, such bonds shall not cease to be tax-exempt bonds (and section 150(b)(4) shall not apply) if the person engaged in such local furnishing by such facility makes an election described in subparagraph (B).

''(B) ELECTION.—An election is described in this subparagraph if it is an election made in such manner as the Secretary prescribes, and such person (or its predecessor in interest) agrees that—

''(i) such election is made with respect to all facilities for the local furnishing of electric energy or gas, or both, by such person,

''(ii) no bond exempt from tax under section 103 and described in subsection (a)(8) may be issued on or after the date of the enactment of this paragraph with respect to all such facilities of such person,

''(iii) any expansion of the service area—

''(I) is not financed with the proceeds of any exempt facility bond described in subsection (a)(8), and

''(II) is not treated as a nonqualifying use under the rules of paragraph (2), and

''(iv) all outstanding bonds used to finance the facilities for such person are redeemed not later than 6 months after the later of—

''(I) the earliest date on which such bonds may be redeemed, or

''(II) the date of the election.

''(C) RELATED PERSONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'person' includes a group of related persons (within the meaning of section 144(a)(3)) which includes such person.''.

(b) NO INFERENCE WITH RESPECT TO OUTSTANDING BONDS.—The use of the term ''person'' in section 142(f)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by subsection (a), shall not be construed to affect the tax-exempt status of interest on any bonds issued before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1609. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXCISE TAXES.

(a) FUEL TAX.—

(1) Subparagraph (A) of section 4091(b)(3) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) The rate of tax specified in paragraph (1) shall be 4.3 cents per gallon—

''(i) after December 31, 1995, and before the date which is 7 calendar days after the date of

the enactment of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, and

''(ii) after December 31, 1996.''.

(2) Section 4081(d) is amended—

(A) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) AVIATION GASOLINE.—After December 31, 1996, the rate of tax specified in subsection (a)(2)(A)(i) on aviation gasoline shall be 4.3 cents per gallon.'', and

(B) by inserting ''(other than the tax on aviation gasoline)'' after ''subsection (a)(2)(A)''.

(3) Section 4041(c)(5) is amended by inserting '', and during the period beginning on the date which is 7 calendar days after the date of the enactment of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 and ending on December 31, 1996'' after ''December 31, 1995''.

(b) TICKET TAXES.—Sections 4261(g) and 4271(d) are each amended by striking ''January 1, 1996'' and inserting ''January 1, 1996, and to transportation beginning on or after the date which is 7 calendar days after the date of the enactment of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 and before January 1, 1997''.

(c) TRANSFERS TO AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND.—

(1) Subsection (b) of section 9502 is amended by striking ''January 1, 1996'' each place it appears and inserting ''January 1, 1997''.

(2) Paragraph (3) of section 9502(f) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) TERMINATION.—Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this subsection, the Airport and Airway Trust Fund financing rate shall be zero with respect to—

''(A) taxes imposed after December 31, 1995, and before the date which is 7 calendar days after the date of the enactment of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, and

''(B) taxes imposed after December 31, 1996.''.

(3) Subsection (d) of section 9502 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) TRANSFERS FROM AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND ON ACCOUNT OF REFUNDS OF TAXES ON TRANSPORTATION BY AIR.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall pay from time to time from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund into the general fund of the Treasury amounts equivalent to the amounts paid after December 31, 1995, under section 6402 (relating to authority to make credits or refunds) or section 6415 (relating to credits or refunds to persons who collected certain taxes) in respect of taxes under sections 4261 and 4271.''.

(d) EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION BY AIR AMBULANCE.—Subsection (f) of section 4261 (relating to imposition of tax on transportation by air) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) EXEMPTION FOR AIR AMBULANCES PROVIDING CERTAIN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION.—No tax shall be imposed under this section or section 4271 on any air transportation for the purpose of providing emergency medical services—

''(1) by helicopter, or

''(2) by a fixed-wing aircraft equipped for and exclusively dedicated to acute care emergency medical services.''.

(e) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN HELICOPTER USES.—Subsection (e) of section 4261 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''In the case of helicopter transportation described in paragraph (1), this subsection shall be applied by treating each flight segment as a distinct flight.''.

(f) FLIGHT-BY-FLIGHT DETERMINATION OF AVAILABILITY FOR HIRE FOR AFFILIATED GROUPS.—Section 4282 is amended by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c) and by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

''(b) AVAILABILITY FOR HIRE.—For purposes of subsection (a), the determination of whether an aircraft is available for hire by persons who are not members of an affiliated group shall be made on a flight-by-flight basis.''

(g) CONSOLIDATION OF TAXES ON AVIATION GASOLINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 4081(a)(2) (relating to imposition of tax on gasoline and diesel fuel) is amended by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii) and by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) in the case of gasoline other than aviation gasoline, 18.3 cents per gallon,

''(ii) in the case of aviation gasoline, 19.3 cents per gallon, and''.

(2) TERMINATION.—Subsection (d) of section 4081 is amended by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3) and by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

''(2) AVIATION GASOLINE.—On and after January 1, 1997, the rate specified in subsection (a)(2)(A)(ii) shall be 4.3 cents per gallon.''

(3) REPEAL OF RETAIL LEVEL TAX.—

(A) Subsection (c) of section 4041 is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively.

(B) Paragraph (3) of section 4041(c), as redesignated by paragraph (1), is amended by striking ''paragraphs (1) and (2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (1)''.

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraph (1) of section 4041(k) is amended by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking '', and'' at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting a period, and by striking subparagraph (C).

(B) Paragraph (1) of section 4081(d) is amended by striking ''each rate of tax specified in subsection (a)(2)(A)'' and inserting ''the rates of tax specified in clauses (i) and (iii) of subsection (a)(2)(A)''.

(C) Sections 6421(f)(2)(A) and 9502(f)(1)(A) are each amended by striking ''section 4041(c)(4)'' and inserting ''section 4041(c)(2)''.

(D) Paragraph (2) of section 9502(b) is amended by striking ''14 cents'' and inserting ''15 cents''.

(h) FLOOR STOCKS TAXES ON AVIATION FUEL.—

(1) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—In the case of aviation fuel on which tax was imposed under section 4091 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 before the tax-increase date described in paragraph (3)(A)(i) and which is held on such date by any person, there is hereby imposed a floor stocks tax of 17.5 cents per gallon.

(2) LIABILITY FOR TAX AND METHOD OF PAYMENT.—

(A) LIABILITY FOR TAX.—A person holding aviation fuel on a tax-increase date to which the tax imposed by paragraph (1) applies shall be liable for such tax.

(B) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe.

(C) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) with respect to any tax-increase date shall be paid on or before the first day of the 7th month beginning after such tax-increase date.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) TAX INCREASE DATE.—The term ''tax-increase date'' means the date which is 7 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) AVIATION FUEL.—The term ''aviation fuel'' has the meaning given such term by section 4093 of such Code.

(C) HELD BY A PERSON.—Aviation fuel shall be considered as ''held by a person'' if title thereto has passed to such person (whether or not delivery to the person has been made).

(D) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate.

(4) EXCEPTION FOR EXEMPT USES.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall not apply to aviation fuel held by any person on any tax-increase date exclusively for any use for which a credit or refund of the entire tax imposed by section 4091 of such Code is allowable for aviation fuel purchased on or after such tax-increase date for such use.

(5) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN AMOUNTS OF FUEL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—No tax shall be imposed by paragraph (1) on aviation fuel held on any tax-increase date by any person if the aggregate amount of aviation fuel held by such person on such date does not exceed 2,000 gallons. The preceding sentence shall apply only if such person submits to the Secretary (at the time and in the manner required by the Secretary) such information as the Secretary shall require for purposes of this paragraph.

(B) EXEMPT FUEL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), there shall not be taken into account fuel held by any person which is exempt from the tax imposed by paragraph (1) by reason of paragraph (4).

(C) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—For purposes of this paragraph—

(i) CORPORATIONS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—All persons treated as a controlled group shall be treated as 1 person.

(II) CONTROLLED GROUP.—The term ''controlled group'' has the meaning given to such term by subsection (a) of section 1563 of such Code; except that for such purposes the phrase ''more than 50 percent'' shall be substituted for the phrase ''at least 80 percent'' each place it appears in such subsection.

(ii) NONINCORPORATED PERSONS UNDER COMMON CONTROL.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, principles similar to the principles of clause (i) shall apply to a group of persons under common control where 1 or more of such persons is not a corporation.

(6) OTHER LAW APPLICABLE.—All provisions of law, including penalties, applicable with respect to the taxes imposed by section 4091 of such Code shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this subsection, apply with respect to the floor stock taxes imposed by paragraph (1) to the same extent as if such taxes were imposed by such section 4091.

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the 7th calendar day after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that the amendments made by subsection (b) shall not apply to any amount paid before such date.

SEC. 1610. BASIS ADJUSTMENT TO PROPERTY HELD BY CORPORATION WHERE STOCK IN CORPORATION IS REPLACEMENT PROPERTY UNDER INVOLUNTARY CONVERSION RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 1033 is amended to read as follows:

''(b) BASIS OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED THROUGH INVOLUNTARY CONVERSION.—

''(1) CONVERSIONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (a)(1).—If the property was acquired as the result of a compulsory or involuntary conversion described in subsection (a)(1), the basis shall be the same as in the case of the property so converted—

''(A) decreased in the amount of any money received by the taxpayer which was not expended in accordance with the provisions of law (applicable to the year in which such conversion was made) determining the taxable status of the gain or loss upon such conversion, and

''(B) increased in the amount of gain or decreased in the amount of loss to the taxpayer recognized upon such conversion under the law applicable to the year in which such conversion was made.

''(2) CONVERSIONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (a)(2).—In the case of property purchased by the taxpayer in a transaction described in subsection (a)(2) which resulted in the nonrecognition of any part of the gain realized as the result of a compulsory or involuntary conversion, the basis shall be the cost of such property decreased in the amount of the gain not so recognized; and if the property purchased consists of more than 1 piece of property, the basis determined under this sentence shall be allocated to the purchased properties in proportion to their respective costs.

''(3) PROPERTY HELD BY CORPORATION THE STOCK OF WHICH IS REPLACEMENT PROPERTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If the basis of stock in a corporation is decreased under paragraph (2), an amount equal to such decrease shall also be applied to reduce the basis of property held by the corporation at the time the taxpayer acquired control (as defined in subsection (a)(2)(E)) of such corporation.

''(B) LIMITATION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the extent that it would (but for this subparagraph) require a reduction in the aggregate adjusted bases of the property of the corporation below the taxpayer's adjusted basis of the stock in the corporation (determined immediately after such basis is decreased under paragraph (2)).

''(C) ALLOCATION OF BASIS REDUCTION.—The decrease required under subparagraph (A) shall be allocated—

''(i) first to property which is similar or related in service or use to the converted property,

''(ii) second to depreciable property (as defined in section 1017(b)(3)(B)) not described in clause (i), and

''(iii) then to other property.

''(D) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(i) REDUCTION NOT TO EXCEED ADJUSTED BASIS OF PROPERTY.—No reduction in the basis of any property under this paragraph shall exceed the adjusted basis of such property (determined without regard to such reduction).

''(ii) ALLOCATION OF REDUCTION AMONG PROPERTIES.—If more than 1 property is described in a clause of subparagraph (C), the reduction under this paragraph shall be allocated among such property in proportion to the adjusted bases of such property (as so determined).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to involuntary conversions occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1611. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INSURANCE CONTRACTS ON RETIRED LIVES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 817(d) (defining variable contract) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting ''or'', and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

''(C) provides for funding of insurance on retired lives as described in section 807(c)(6), and''.

(2) Paragraph (3) of section 817(d) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting '', or'', and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

''(C) in the case of funds held under a contract described in paragraph (2)(C), the amounts paid in, or the amounts paid out, reflect the investment return and the market value of the segregated asset account.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

SEC. 1612. TREATMENT OF MODIFIED GUARANTEED CONTRACTS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subpart E of part I of subchapter L of chapter 1 (relating to definitions and special rules) is amended by inserting after section 817 the following new section:

''SEC. 817A. SPECIAL RULES FOR MODIFIED GUARANTEED CONTRACTS.

''(a) COMPUTATION OF RESERVES.—In the case of a modified guaranteed contract, clause (ii) of section 807(e)(1)(A) shall not apply.

''(b) SEGREGATED ASSETS UNDER MODIFIED GUARANTEED CONTRACTS MARKED TO MARKET.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any life insurance company, for purposes of this subtitle—

''(A) Any gain or loss with respect to a segregated asset shall be treated as ordinary income or loss, as the case may be.

''(B) If any segregated asset is held by such company as of the close of any taxable year—

''(i) such company shall recognize gain or loss as if such asset were sold for its fair market value on the last business day of such taxable year, and

''(ii) any such gain or loss shall be taken into account for such taxable year.

Proper adjustment shall be made in the amount of any gain or loss subsequently realized for gain or loss taken into account under the preceding sentence. The Secretary may provide by regulations for the application of this subparagraph at times other than the times provided in this subparagraph.

''(2) SEGREGATED ASSET.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'segregated asset' means any asset held as part of a segregated account referred to in subsection (d)(1) under a modified guaranteed contract.

''(c) SPECIAL RULE IN COMPUTING LIFE INSURANCE RESERVES.—For purposes of applying section 816(b)(1)(A) to any modified guaranteed contract, an assumed rate of interest shall include a rate of interest determined, from time to time, with reference to a market rate of interest.

''(d) MODIFIED GUARANTEED CONTRACT DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term 'modified guaranteed contract' means a contract not described in section 817—

''(1) all or part of the amounts received under which are allocated to an account which, pursuant to State law or regulation, is segregated from the general asset accounts of the company and is valued from time to time with reference to market values,

''(2) which—

''(A) provides for the payment of annuities,

''(B) is a life insurance contract, or

''(C) is a pension plan contract which is not a life, accident, or health, property, casualty, or liability contract,

''(3) for which reserves are valued at market for annual statement purposes, and

''(4) which provides for a net surrender value or a policyholder's fund (as defined in section 807(e)(1)).

If only a portion of a contract is not described in section 817, such portion shall be treated for purposes of this section as a separate contract.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations—

''(1) to provide for the treatment of market value adjustments under sections 72, 7702, 7702A, and 807(e)(1)(B),

''(2) to determine the interest rates applicable under sections 807(c)(3), 807(d)(2)(B), and 812 with respect to a modified guaranteed contract annually, in a manner appropriate for modified guaranteed contracts and, to the extent appropriate for such a contract, to modify or waive the applicability of section 811(d),

''(3) to provide rules to limit ordinary gain or loss treatment to assets constituting reserves for modified guaranteed contracts (and not other assets) of the company,

''(4) to provide appropriate treatment of transfers of assets to and from the segregated account, and

''(5) as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart E of part I of subchapter L of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 817 the following new item:

''Sec. 817A. Special rules for modified guaranteed contracts.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

(2) TREATMENT OF NET ADJUSTMENTS.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), in the case of any taxpayer required by the amendments made by this section to change its calculation of reserves to take into account market value adjustments and to mark segregated assets to market for any taxable year—

(A) such changes shall be treated as a change in method of accounting initiated by the taxpayer,

(B) such changes shall be treated as made with the consent of the Secretary, and

(C) the adjustments required by reason of section 481 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, shall be taken into account as ordinary income by the taxpayer for the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

(3) LIMITATION ON LOSS RECOGNITION AND ON DEDUCTION FOR RESERVE INCREASES.—

(A) LIMITATION ON LOSS RECOGNITION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The aggregate loss recognized by reason of the application of section 481 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to section 817A(b) of such Code (as added by this section) for the first taxable year of the taxpayer beginning after December 31, 1995, shall not exceed the amount included in the taxpayer's gross income for such year by reason of the excess (if any) of—

(I) the amount of life insurance reserves as of the close of the prior taxable year, over

(II) the amount of such reserves as of the beginning of such first taxable year,

to the extent such excess is attributable to subsection (a) of such section 817A. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, the adjusted basis of each segregated asset shall be determined as if all such losses were recognized.

(ii) DISALLOWED LOSS ALLOWED OVER PERIOD.—The amount of the loss which is not allowed under clause (i) shall be allowed ratably over the period of 7 taxable years beginning with the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

(B) LIMITATION ON DEDUCTION FOR INCREASE IN RESERVES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The deduction allowed for the first taxable year of the taxpayer beginning after December 31, 1995, by reason of the application of section 481 of such Code with respect to section 817A(a) of such Code (as added by this section) shall not exceed the aggregate built-in gain recognized by reason of the application of such section 481 with respect to section 817A(b) of such Code (as added by this section) for such first taxable year.

(ii) DISALLOWED DEDUCTION ALLOWED OVER PERIOD.—The amount of the deduction which is disallowed under clause (i) shall be allowed ratably over the period of 7 taxable years beginning with the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

(iii) BUILT-IN GAIN.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the built-in gain on an asset is the amount equal to the excess of—

(I) the fair market value of the asset as of the beginning of the first taxable year of the taxpayer beginning after December 31, 1995, over

(II) the adjusted basis of such asset as of such time.

SEC. 1613. TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 118 (relating to contributions to the capital of a corporation) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (e), and

(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsections:

''(c) SPECIAL RULES FOR WATER AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL UTILITIES.—

''(1) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'contribution to the capital of the taxpayer' includes any amount of money or other property received from any person (whether or not a shareholder) by a regulated public utility which provides water or sewerage disposal services if—

''(A) such amount is a contribution in aid of construction,

''(B) in the case of contribution of property other than water or sewerage disposal facilities, such amount meets the requirements of the expenditure rule of paragraph (2), and

''(C) such amount (or any property acquired or constructed with such amount) is not included in the taxpayer's rate base for rate-making purposes.

''(2) EXPENDITURE RULE.—An amount meets the requirements of this paragraph if—

''(A) an amount equal to such amount is expended for the acquisition or construction of tangible property described in section 1231(b)—

''(i) which is the property for which the contribution was made or is of the same type as such property, and

''(ii) which is used predominantly in the trade or business of furnishing water or sewerage disposal services,

''(B) the expenditure referred to in subparagraph (A) occurs before the end of the second taxable year after the year in which such amount was received, and

''(C) accurate records are kept of the amounts contributed and expenditures made, the expenditures to which contributions are allocated, and the year in which the contributions and expenditures are received and made.

''(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) CONTRIBUTION IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION.—The term 'contribution in aid of construction' shall be defined by regulations prescribed by the Secretary, except that such term shall not include amounts paid as service charges for starting or stopping services.

''(B) PREDOMINANTLY.—The term 'predominantly' means 80 percent or more.

''(C) REGULATED PUBLIC UTILITY.—The term 'regulated public utility' has the meaning given such term by section 7701(a)(33), except that such term shall not include any utility which is not required to provide water or sewerage disposal services to members of the general public in its service area.

''(4) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTIONS AND CREDITS; ADJUSTED BASIS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, no deduction or credit shall be allowed for, or by reason of, any expenditure which constitutes a contribution in aid of construction to which this subsection applies. The adjusted basis of any property acquired with contributions in aid of construction to which this subsection applies shall be zero.

''(d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—If the taxpayer for any taxable year treats an amount as a contribution to the capital of the taxpayer described in subsection (c), then—

''(1) the statutory period for the assessment of any deficiency attributable to any part of such amount shall not expire before the expiration of 3 years from the date the Secretary is notified by the taxpayer (in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe) of—

''(A) the amount of the expenditure referred to in subparagraph (A) of subsection (c)(2),

''(B) the taxpayer's intention not to make the expenditures referred to in such subparagraph, or

''(C) a failure to make such expenditure within the period described in subparagraph (B) of subsection (c)(2), and

''(2) such deficiency may be assessed before the expiration of such 3-year period notwithstanding the provisions of any other law or rule of law which would otherwise prevent such assessment.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 118(b) is amended by inserting ''except as provided in subsection (c),'' before ''the term''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to amounts received after June 12, 1996.

(b) RECOVERY METHOD AND PERIOD FOR WATER UTILITY PROPERTY.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO USE STRAIGHT LINE METHOD.—Section 168(b)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) Water utility property described in subsection (e)(5).''.

(2) 25-YEAR RECOVERY PERIOD.—The table contained in section 168(c)(1) is amended by inserting the following item after the item relating to 20-year property:

''Water utility property ..... 25 years''.

(3) WATER UTILITY PROPERTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(e) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) WATER UTILITY PROPERTY.—The term 'water utility property' means property—

''(A) which is an integral part of the gathering, treatment, or commercial distribution of water, and which, without regard to this paragraph, would be 20-year property, and

''(B) any municipal sewer.''.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 168 is amended—

(i) by striking subparagraph (F) of subsection (e)(3), and

(ii) by striking the item relating to subparagraph (F) in the table in subsection (g)(3).

(4) ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM.—Clause (iv) of section 168(g)(2)(C) is amended by inserting ''or water utility property'' after ''tunnel bore''.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to property placed in service after June 12, 1996, other than property placed in service pursuant to a binding contract in effect before June 10, 1996, and at all times thereafter before the property is placed in service.

SEC. 1614. ELECTION TO CEASE STATUS AS QUALIFIED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING CORPORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 150 (relating to definitions and special rules) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) ELECTION TO CEASE STATUS AS QUALIFIED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING CORPORATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any qualified scholarship funding bond, and qualified student loan bond, outstanding on the date of the issuer's election under this paragraph (and any bond (or series of bonds) issued to refund such a bond) shall not fail to be a tax-exempt bond solely because the issuer ceases to be described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) if the issuer meets the requirements of subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this paragraph.

''(B) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF ISSUER TRANSFERRED TO TAXABLE SUBSIDIARY.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met by an issuer if—

''(i) all of the student loan notes of the issuer and other assets pledged to secure the repayment of qualified scholarship funding bond indebtedness of the issuer are transferred to another corporation within a reasonable period after the election is made under this paragraph;

''(ii) such transferee corporation assumes or otherwise provides for the payment of all of the qualified scholarship funding bond indebtedness of the issuer within a reasonable period after the election is made under this paragraph;

''(iii) to the extent permitted by law, such transferee corporation assumes all of the responsibilities, and succeeds to all of the rights, of the issuer under the issuer's agreements with the Secretary of Education in respect of student loans;

''(iv) immediately after such transfer, the issuer, together with any other issuer which has made an election under this paragraph in respect of such transferee, hold all of the senior stock in such transferee corporation; and

''(v) such transferee corporation is not exempt from tax under this chapter.

''(C) ISSUER TO OPERATE AS INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 501(C)(3).—The requirements of this subparagraph are met by an issuer if, within a reasonable period after the transfer referred to in subparagraph (B)—

''(i) the issuer is described in section 501(c)(3) and exempt from tax under section 501(a);

''(ii) the issuer no longer is described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2); and

''(iii) at least 80 percent of the members of the board of directors of the issuer are independent members.

''(D) SENIOR STOCK.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'senior stock' means stock—

''(i) which participates pro rata and fully in the equity value of the corporation with all other common stock of the corporation but which has the right to payment of liquidation proceeds prior to payment of liquidation proceeds in respect of other common stock of the corporation;

''(ii) which has a fixed right upon liquidation and upon redemption to an amount equal to the greater of—

''(I) the fair market value of such stock on the date of liquidation or redemption (whichever is applicable); or

''(II) the fair market value of all assets transferred in exchange for such stock and reduced by the amount of all liabilities of the corporation which has made an election under this paragraph assumed by the transferee corporation in such transfer;

''(iii) the holder of which has the right to require the transferee corporation to redeem on a date that is not later than 10 years after the date on which an election under this paragraph was made and pursuant to such election such stock was issued; and

''(iv) in respect of which, during the time such stock is outstanding, there is not outstanding any equity interest in the corporation having any liquidation, redemption or dividend rights in the corporation which are superior to those of such stock.

''(E) INDEPENDENT MEMBER.—The term 'independent member' means a member of the board of directors of the issuer who (except for services as a member of such board) receives no compensation directly or indirectly—

''(i) for services performed in connection with such transferee corporation, or

''(ii) for services as a member of the board of directors or as an officer of such transferee corporation.

For purposes of clause (ii), the term 'officer' includes any individual having powers or responsibilities similar to those of officers.

''(F) COORDINATION WITH CERTAIN PRIVATE FOUNDATION TAXES.—For purposes of sections 4942 (relating to the excise tax on a failure to distribute income) and 4943 (relating to the excise tax on excess business holdings), the transferee corporation referred to in subparagraph (B) shall be treated as a functionally related business (within the meaning of section 4942(j)(4)) with respect to the issuer during the period commencing with the date on which an election is made under this paragraph and ending on the date that is the earlier of—

''(i) the last day of the last taxable year for which more than 50 percent of the gross income of such transferee corporation is derived from, or more than 50 percent of the assets (by value) of such transferee corporation consists of, student loan notes incurred under the Higher Education Act of 1965; or

''(ii) the last day of the taxable year of the issuer during which occurs the date which is 10 years after the date on which the election under this paragraph is made.

''(G) ELECTION.—An election under this paragraph may be revoked only with the consent of the Secretary.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1615. CERTAIN TAX BENEFITS DENIED TO INDIVIDUALS FAILING TO PROVIDE TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS.

(a) PERSONAL EXEMPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 151 (relating to allowance of deductions for personal exemptions) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) IDENTIFYING INFORMATION REQUIRED.—No exemption shall be allowed under this section with respect to any individual unless the TIN of such individual is included on the return claiming the exemption.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subsection (e) of section 6109 is repealed.

(B) Section 6724(d)(3) is amended by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (C), by striking subparagraph (D), and by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (D).

(b) DEPENDENT CARE CREDIT.—Subsection (e) of section 21 (relating to expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(10) IDENTIFYING INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH RESPECT TO QUALIFYING INDIVIDUALS.—No credit shall be allowed under this section with respect to any qualifying individual unless the TIN of such individual is included on the return claiming the credit.''.

(c) EXTENSION OF PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO MATHEMATICAL OR CLERICAL ERRORS.—Section 6213(g)(2) (relating to the definition of mathematical or clerical errors), as amended by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, is amended by striking ''and' at the end of subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (G) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(H) an omission of a correct TIN required under section 21 (relating to expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment) or section 151 (relating to allowance of deductions for personal exemptions).''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to returns the due date for which (without regard to extensions) is on or after the 30th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR 1995 AND 1996.—In the case of returns for taxable years beginning in 1995 or 1996, a taxpayer shall not be required by the amendments made by this section to provide a taxpayer identification number for a child who is born after October 31, 1995, in the case of a taxable year beginning in 1995 or November 30, 1996, in the case of a taxable year beginning in 1996.

SEC. 1616. REPEAL OF BAD DEBT RESERVE METHOD FOR THRIFT SAVINGS ASSOCIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 593 (relating to reserves for losses on loans) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(f) TERMINATION OF RESERVE METHOD.—Subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

''(g) 6-YEAR SPREAD OF ADJUSTMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxpayer who is required by reason of subsection (f) to change its method of computing reserves for bad debts—

''(A) such change shall be treated as a change in a method of accounting,

''(B) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer and as having been made with the consent of the Secretary, and

''(C) the net amount of the adjustments required to be taken into account by the taxpayer under section 481(a)—

''(i) shall be determined by taking into account only applicable excess reserves, and

''(ii) as so determined, shall be taken into account ratably over the 6-taxable year period beginning with the first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

''(2) APPLICABLE EXCESS RESERVES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'applicable excess reserves' means the excess (if any) of—

''(i) the balance of the reserves described in subsection (c)(1) (other than the supplemental reserve) as of the close of the taxpayer's last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1996, over

''(ii) the lesser of—

''(I) the balance of such reserves as of the close of the taxpayer's last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1988, or

''(II) the balance of the reserves described in subclause (I), reduced in the same manner as under section 585(b)(2)(B)(ii) on the basis of the taxable years described in clause (i) and this clause.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR THRIFTS WHICH BECOME SMALL BANKS.—In the case of a bank (as defined in section 581) which was not a large bank (as defined in section 585(c)(2)) for its first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995—

''(i) the balance taken into account under subparagraph (A)(ii) shall not be less than the amount which would be the balance of such reserves as of the close of its last taxable year beginning before such date if the additions to such reserves for all taxable years had been determined under section 585(b)(2)(A), and

''(ii) the opening balance of the reserve for bad debts as of the beginning of such first taxable year shall be the balance taken into account under subparagraph (A)(ii) (determined after the application of clause (i) of this subparagraph).

The preceding sentence shall not apply for purposes of paragraphs (5) and (6) or subsection (e)(1).

''(3) RECAPTURE OF PRE-1988 RESERVES WHERE TAXPAYER CEASES TO BE BANK.—If, during any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, a taxpayer to which paragraph (1) applied is not a bank (as defined in section 581), paragraph (1) shall apply to the reserves described in paragraph (2)(A)(ii) and the supplemental reserve; except that such reserves shall be taken into account ratably over the 6-taxable year period beginning with such taxable year.

''(4) SUSPENSION OF RECAPTURE IF RESIDENTIAL LOAN REQUIREMENT MET.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a bank which meets the residential loan requirement of subparagraph (B) for the first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, or for the following taxable year—

''(i) no adjustment shall be taken into account under paragraph (1) for such taxable year, and

''(ii) such taxable year shall be disregarded in determining—

''(I) whether any other taxable year is a taxable year for which an adjustment is required to be taken into account under paragraph (1), and

''(II) the amount of such adjustment.

''(B) RESIDENTIAL LOAN REQUIREMENT.—A taxpayer meets the residential loan requirement of this subparagraph for any taxable year if the principal amount of the residential loans made by the taxpayer during such year is not less than the base amount for such year.

''(C) RESIDENTIAL LOAN.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'residential loan' means any loan described in clause (v) of section 7701(a)(19)(C) but only if such loan is incurred in acquiring, constructing, or improving the property described in such clause.

''(D) BASE AMOUNT.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), the base amount is the average of the principal amounts of the residential loans made by the taxpayer during the 6 most recent taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 1995. At the election of the taxpayer who made such loans during each of such 6 taxable years, the preceding sentence shall be applied without regard to the taxable year in which such principal amount was the highest and the taxable year in such principal amount was the lowest. Such an election may be made only for the first taxable year beginning after such date, and, if made for such taxable year, shall apply to the succeeding taxable year unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary.

''(E) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—In the case of a taxpayer which is a member of any controlled group of corporations described in section 1563(a)(1), subparagraph (B) shall be applied with respect to such group.

''(5) CONTINUED APPLICATION OF FRESH START UNDER SECTION 585 TRANSITIONAL RULES.—In the case of a taxpayer to which paragraph (1) applied and which was not a large bank (as defined in section 585(c)(2)) for its first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of determining the net amount of adjustments referred to in section 585(c)(3)(A)(iii), there shall be taken into account only the excess (if any) of the reserve for bad debts as of the close of the last taxable year before the disqualification year over the balance taken into account by such taxpayer under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) of this subsection.

''(B) TREATMENT UNDER ELECTIVE CUT-OFF METHOD.—For purposes of applying section 585(c)(4)—

''(i) the balance of the reserve taken into account under subparagraph (B) thereof shall be reduced by the balance taken into account by such taxpayer under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) of this subsection, and

''(ii) no amount shall be includible in gross income by reason of such reduction.

''(6) SUSPENDED RESERVE INCLUDED AS SECTION 381(c) ITEMS.—The balance taken into account by a taxpayer under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) of this subsection and the supplemental reserve shall be treated as items described in section 381(c).

''(7) CONVERSIONS TO CREDIT UNIONS.—In the case of a taxpayer to which paragraph (1) applied which becomes a credit union described in section 501(c) and exempt from taxation under section 501(a)—

''(A) any amount required to be included in the gross income of the credit union by reason of this subsection shall be treated as derived from an unrelated trade or business (as defined in section 513), and

''(B) for purposes of paragraph (3), the credit union shall not be treated as if it were a bank.

''(8) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this subsection and subsection (e), including regulations providing for the application of such subsections in the case of acquisitions, mergers, spin-offs, and other reorganizations.''

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (d) of section 50 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

''Paragraphs (1)(A), (2)(A), and (4) of the section 46(e) referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.''

(2) Subsection (e) of section 52 is amended by striking paragraph (1) and by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

(3) Subsection (a) of section 57 is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(4) Section 246 is amended by striking subsection (f).

(5) Clause (i) of section 291(e)(1)(B) is amended by striking ''or to which section 593 applies''.

(6) Subparagraph (A) of section 585(a)(2) is amended by striking ''other than an organization to which section 593 applies''.

(7)(A) The material preceding subparagraph (A) of section 593(e)(1) is amended by striking ''by a domestic building and loan association or an institution that is treated as a mutual savings bank under section 591(b)'' and inserting ''by a taxpayer having a balance described in subsection (g)(2)(A)(ii)''.

(B) Subparagraph (B) of section 593(e)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) then out of the balance taken into account under subsection (g)(2)(A)(ii) (properly adjusted for amounts charged against such reserves for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1987),''.

(C) The second sentence of section 593(e)(1) is amended by striking ''the association or an institution that is treated as a mutual savings bank under section 591(b)'' and inserting ''a taxpayer having a balance described in subsection (g)(2)(A)(ii)''.

(D) The third sentence of section 593(e)(1) is amended by striking ''an association'' and inserting ''a taxpayer having a balance described in subsection (g)(2)(A)(ii)''.

(E) Paragraph (1) of section 593(e) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''This paragraph shall not apply to any distribution of all of the stock of a bank (as defined in section 581) to another corporation if, immediately after the distribution, such bank and such other corporation are members of the same affiliated group (as defined in section 1504) and the provisions of section 5(e) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (as in effect on December 31, 1995) or similar provisions are in effect.''

(8) Section 595 is hereby repealed.

(9) Section 596 is hereby repealed.

(10) Subsection (a) of section 860E is amended—

(A) by striking ''Except as provided in paragraph (2), the'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''The'',

(B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (4) and redesignating paragraphs (3), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively,

(C) by striking in paragraph (2) (as so redesignated) all that follows ''subsection'' and inserting a period, and

(D) by striking the last sentence of paragraph (4) (as so redesignated).

(11) Paragraph (3) of section 992(d) is amended by striking ''or 593''.

(12) Section 1038 is amended by striking subsection (f).

(13) Clause (ii) of section 1042(c)(4)(B) is amended by striking ''or 593''.

(14) Subsection (c) of section 1277 is amended by striking ''or to which section 593 applies''.

(15) Subparagraph (B) of section 1361(b)(2) is amended by striking ''or to which section 593 applies''.

(16) The table of sections for part II of subchapter H of chapter 1 is amended by striking the items relating to sections 595 and 596.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

(2) SUBSECTION (b)(7)(B).—The amendments made by subsection (b)(7)(B) shall not apply to any distribution with respect to preferred stock if—

(A) such stock is outstanding at all times after October 31, 1995, and before the distribution, and

(B) such distribution is made before the date which is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act (or, in the case of stock which may be redeemed, if later, the date which is 30 days after the earliest date that such stock may be redeemed).

(3) SUBSECTION (b)(8).—The amendment made by subsection (b)(8) shall apply to property acquired in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

(4) SUBSECTION (b)(10).—The amendments made by subsection (b)(10) shall not apply to any residual interest held by a taxpayer if such interest has been held by such taxpayer at all times after October 31, 1995.

SEC. 1617. EXCLUSION FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION SUBSIDIES LIMITED TO SUBSIDIES WITH RESPECT TO DWELLING UNITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 136(c) (defining energy conservation measure) is amended by striking ''energy demand—'' and all that follows and inserting ''energy demand with respect to a dwelling unit.''

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (a) of section 136 is amended to read as follows:

''(a) EXCLUSION.—Gross income shall not include the value of any subsidy provided (directly or indirectly) by a public utility to a customer for the purchase or installation of any energy conservation measure.''

(2) Paragraph (2) of section 136(c) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and

(B) by striking ''AND SPECIAL RULES'' in the paragraph heading.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts received after December 31, 1996, unless received pursuant to a written binding contract in effect on September 13, 1995, and at all times thereafter.

PART II—FINANCIAL ASSET SECURITIZATION INVESTMENTS

SEC. 1621. FINANCIAL ASSET SECURITIZATION INVESTMENT TRUSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter M of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

''PART V—FINANCIAL ASSET SECURITIZATION INVESTMENT TRUSTS

''Sec. 860H. Taxation of a FASIT; other general rules.

''Sec. 860I. Gain recognition on contributions to a FASIT and in other cases.

''Sec. 860J. Non-FASIT losses not to offset certain FASIT inclusions.

''Sec. 860K. Treatment of transfers of high-yield interests to disqualified holders.

''Sec. 860L. Definitions and other special rules.

''SEC. 860H. TAXATION OF A FASIT; OTHER GENERAL RULES.

''(a) TAXATION OF FASIT.—A FASIT as such shall not be subject to taxation under this subtitle (and shall not be treated as a trust, partnership, corporation, or taxable mortgage pool).

''(b) TAXATION OF HOLDER OF OWNERSHIP INTEREST.—In determining the taxable income of the holder of the ownership interest in a FASIT—

''(1) all assets, liabilities, and items of income, gain, deduction, loss, and credit of a FASIT shall be treated as assets, liabilities, and such items (as the case may be) of such holder,

''(2) the constant yield method (including the rules of section 1272(a)(6)) shall be applied under an accrual method of accounting in determining all interest, acquisition discount, original issue discount, and market discount and all premium deductions or adjustments with respect to each debt instrument of the FASIT,

''(3) there shall not be taken into account any item of income, gain, or deduction allocable to a prohibited transaction, and

''(4) interest accrued by the FASIT which is exempt from tax imposed by this subtitle shall, when taken into account by such holder, be treated as ordinary income.

''(c) TREATMENT OF REGULAR INTERESTS.—For purposes of this title—

''(1) a regular interest in a FASIT, if not otherwise a debt instrument, shall be treated as a debt instrument,

''(2) section 163(e)(5) shall not apply to such an interest, and

''(3) amounts includible in gross income with respect to such an interest shall be determined under an accrual method of accounting.

''SEC. 860I. GAIN RECOGNITION ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO A FASIT AND IN OTHER CASES.

''(a) TREATMENT OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY FASIT.—

''(1) PROPERTY ACQUIRED FROM HOLDER OF OWNERSHIP INTEREST OR RELATED PERSON.—If property is sold or contributed to a FASIT by the holder of the ownership interest in such FASIT (or by a related person) gain (if any) shall be recognized to such holder (or person) in an amount equal to the excess (if any) of such property's value under subsection (d) on the date of such sale or contribution over its adjusted basis on such date.

''(2) PROPERTY ACQUIRED OTHER THAN FROM HOLDER OF OWNERSHIP INTEREST OR RELATED PERSON.—Property which is acquired by a FASIT other than in a transaction to which paragraph (1) applies shall be treated—

''(A) as having been acquired by the holder of the ownership interest in the FASIT for an amount equal to the FASIT's cost of acquiring such property, and

''(B) as having been sold by such holder to the FASIT at its value under subsection (d) on such date.

''(b) GAIN RECOGNITION ON PROPERTY OUTSIDE FASIT WHICH SUPPORTS REGULAR INTERESTS.—If property held by the holder of the ownership interest in a FASIT (or by any person related to such holder) supports any regular interest in such FASIT—

''(1) gain shall be recognized to such holder (or person) in the same manner as if such holder (or person) had sold such property at its value under subsection (d) on the earliest date such property supports such an interest, and

''(2) such property shall be treated as held by such FASIT for purposes of this part.

''(c) DEFERRAL OF GAIN RECOGNITION.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations which—

''(1) provide that gain otherwise recognized under subsection (a) or (b) shall not be recognized before the earliest date on which such property supports any regular interest in such FASIT or any indebtedness of the holder of the ownership interest (or of any person related to such holder), and

''(2) provide such adjustments to the other provisions of this part to the extent appropriate in the context of the treatment provided under paragraph (1).

''(d) VALUATION.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The value of any property under this subsection shall be—

''(A) in the case of a debt instrument which is not traded on an established securities market, the sum of the present values of the reasonably expected payments under such instrument determined (in the manner provided by regulations prescribed by the Secretary)—

''(i) as of the date of the event resulting in the gain recognition under this section, and

''(ii) by using a discount rate equal to 120 percent of the applicable Federal rate (as defined in section 1274(d)), or such other discount rate specified in such regulations, compounded semiannually, and

''(B) in the case of any other property, its fair market value.

''(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNTS.—For purposes of paragraph (1)—

''(A) each extension of credit (other than the accrual of interest) on a revolving loan account shall be treated as a separate debt instrument, and

''(B) payments on such extensions of credit having substantially the same terms shall be applied to such extensions beginning with the earliest such extension.

''(e) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) NONRECOGNITION RULES NOT TO APPLY.—Gain required to be recognized under this section shall be recognized notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle.

''(2) BASIS ADJUSTMENTS.—The basis of any property on which gain is recognized under this section shall be increased by the amount of gain so recognized.

''SEC. 860J. NON-FASIT LOSSES NOT TO OFFSET CERTAIN FASIT INCLUSIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The taxable income of the holder of the ownership interest or any high-yield interest in a FASIT for any taxable year shall in no event be less than the sum of—

''(1) such holder's taxable income determined solely with respect to such interests (including gains and losses from sales and exchanges of such interests), and

''(2) the excess inclusion (if any) under section 860E(a)(1) for such taxable year.

''(b) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 172.—Any increase in the taxable income of any holder of the ownership interest or a high-yield interest in a FASIT for any taxable year by reason of subsection (a) shall be disregarded—

''(1) in determining under section 172 the amount of any net operating loss for such taxable year, and

''(2) in determining taxable income for such taxable year for purposes of the 2nd sentence of section 172(b)(2).

''(c) COORDINATION WITH MINIMUM TAX.—For purposes of part VI of subchapter A of this chapter—

''(1) the reference in section 55(b)(2) to taxable income shall be treated as a reference to taxable income determined without regard to this section,

''(2) the alternative minimum taxable income of any holder of the ownership interest or a high-yield interest in a FASIT for any taxable year shall in no event be less than such holder's taxable income determined solely with respect to such interests, and

''(3) any increase in taxable income under this section shall be disregarded for purposes of computing the alternative tax net operating loss deduction.

''(d) AFFILIATED GROUPS.—All members of an affiliated group filing a consolidated return shall be treated as 1 taxpayer for purposes of this section.

"SEC. 860K. TREATMENT OF TRANSFERS OF HIGH-YIELD INTERESTS TO DISQUALIFIED HOLDERS.

''(a) GENERAL RULE.—In the case of any high-yield interest which is held by a disqualified holder—

''(1) the gross income of such holder shall not include any income (other than gain) attributable to such interest, and

''(2) amounts not includible in the gross income of such holder by reason of paragraph (1) shall be included (at the time otherwise includible under paragraph (1)) in the gross income of the most recent holder of such interest which is not a disqualified holder.

''(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (4) and (7) of section 860E(e) shall apply to the tax imposed by reason of the inclusion in gross income under subsection (a).

''(c) DISQUALIFIED HOLDER.—For purposes of this section, the term 'disqualified holder' means any holder other than—

''(1) an eligible corporation (as defined in section 860L(a)(2)), or

''(2) a FASIT.

''(d) TREATMENT OF INTERESTS HELD BY SECURITIES DEALERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any high-yield interest held by a disqualified holder if such holder is a dealer in securities who acquired such interest exclusively for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business (and not for investment).

''(2) CHANGE IN DEALER STATUS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a dealer in securities which is not an eligible corporation (as defined in section 860L(a)(2)), if—

''(i) such dealer ceases to be a dealer in securities, or

''(ii) such dealer commences holding the high-yield interest for investment,

there is hereby imposed (in addition to other taxes) an excise tax equal to the product of the highest rate of tax specified in section 11(b)(1) and the income of such dealer attributable to such interest for periods after the date of such cessation or commencement.

''(B) HOLDING FOR 31 DAYS OR LESS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii), a dealer shall not be treated as holding an interest for investment before the 32d day after the date such dealer acquired such interest unless such interest is so held as part of a plan to avoid the purposes of this paragraph.

''(C) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—The deficiency procedures of subtitle F shall apply to the tax imposed by this paragraph.

''(e) TREATMENT OF HIGH-YIELD INTERESTS IN PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a pass-thru entity (as defined in section 860E(e)(6)) issues a debt or equity interest—

''(A) which is supported by any regular interest in a FASIT, and

''(B) which has an original yield to maturity which is greater than each of—

''(i) the sum determined under clauses (i) and (ii) of section 163(i)(1)(B) with respect to such debt or equity interest, and

''(ii) the yield to maturity to such entity on such regular interest (determined as of the date such entity acquired such interest),

there is hereby imposed on the pass-thru entity a tax (in addition to other taxes) equal to the product of the highest rate of tax specified in section 11(b)(1) and the income of the holder of such debt or equity interest which is properly attributable to such regular interest. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the yield to maturity of any equity interest shall be determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to arrangements not having as a principal purpose the avoidance of the purposes of this subsection.

"SEC. 860L. DEFINITIONS AND OTHER SPECIAL RULES.

''(a) FASIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title, the terms 'financial asset securitization investment trust' and 'FASIT' mean any entity—

''(A) for which an election to be treated as a FASIT applies for the taxable year,

''(B) all of the interests in which are regular interests or the ownership interest,

''(C) which has only 1 ownership interest and such ownership interest is held directly by an eligible corporation,

''(D) as of the close of the 3rd month beginning after the day of its formation and at all times thereafter, substantially all of the assets of which (including assets treated as held by the entity under section 860I(b)(2)) consist of permitted assets, and

''(E) which is not described in section 851(a).

A rule similar to the rule of the last sentence of section 860D(a) shall apply for purposes of this paragraph.

''(2) ELIGIBLE CORPORATION.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(C), the term 'eligible corporation' means any domestic C corporation other than—

''(A) a corporation which is exempt from, or is not subject to, tax under this chapter,

''(B) an entity described in section 851(a) or 856(a),

''(C) a REMIC, and

''(D) an organization to which part I of subchapter T applies.

''(3) ELECTION.—An entity (otherwise meeting the requirements of paragraph (1)) may elect to be treated as a FASIT. Except as provided in paragraph (5), such an election shall apply to the taxable year for which made and all subsequent taxable years unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary.

''(4) TERMINATION.—If any entity ceases to be a FASIT at any time during the taxable year, such entity shall not be treated as a FASIT after the date of such ceasation.

''(5) INADVERTENT TERMINATIONS, ETC.—Rules similar to the rules of section 860D(b)(2)(B) shall apply to inadvertent failures to qualify or remain qualified as a FASIT.

''(6) PERMITTED ASSETS NOT TREATED AS INTEREST IN FASIT.—Except as provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary, any asset which is a permitted asset at the time acquired by a FASIT shall not be treated at any time as an interest in such FASIT.

''(b) INTERESTS IN FASIT.—For purposes of this part—

''(1) REGULAR INTEREST.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'regular interest' means any interest which is issued by a FASIT after the startup date with fixed terms and which is designated as a regular interest if—

''(i) such interest unconditionally entitles the holder to receive a specified principal amount (or other similar amount),

''(ii) interest payments (or other similar amounts), if any, with respect to such interest are determined based on a fixed rate, or, except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, at a variable rate permitted under section 860G(a)(1)(B)(i),

''(iii) such interest does not have a stated maturity (including options to renew) greater than 30 years (or such longer period as may be permitted by regulations),

''(iv) the issue price of such interest does not exceed 125 percent of its stated principal amount, and

''(v) the yield to maturity on such interest is less than the sum determined under section 163(i)(1)(B) with respect to such interest.

An interest shall not fail to meet the requirements of clause (i) merely because the timing (but not the amount) of the principal payments (or other similar amounts) may be contingent on the extent that payments on debt instruments held by the FASIT are made in advance of anticipated payments and on the amount of income from permitted assets.

''(B) HIGH-YIELD INTERESTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'regular interest' includes any high-yield interest.

''(ii) HIGH-YIELD INTEREST.—The term 'high-yield interest' means any interest which would be described in subparagraph (A) but for—

''(I) failing to meet the requirements of one or more of clauses (i), (iv), or (v) thereof, or

''(II) failing to meet the requirement of clause (ii) thereof but only if interest payments (or other similar amounts), if any, with respect to such interest consist of a specified portion of the interest payments on permitted assets and such portion does not vary during the period such interest is outstanding.

''(2) OWNERSHIP INTEREST.—The term 'ownership interest' means the interest issued by a FASIT after the startup day which is designated as an ownership interest and which is not a regular interest.

''(c) PERMITTED ASSETS.—For purposes of this part—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'permitted asset' means—

''(A) cash or cash equivalents,

''(B) any debt instrument (as defined in section 1275(a)(1)) under which interest payments (or other similar amounts), if any, at or before maturity meet the requirements applicable under clause (i) or (ii) of section 860G(a)(1)(B),

''(C) foreclosure property,

''(D) any asset—

''(i) which is an interest rate or foreign currency notional principal contract, letter of credit, insurance, guarantee against payment defaults, or other similar instrument permitted by the Secretary, and

''(ii) which is reasonably required to guarantee or hedge against the FASIT's risks associated with being the obligor on interests issued by the FASIT,

''(E) contract rights to acquire debt instruments described in subparagraph (B) or assets described in subparagraph (D),

''(F) any regular interest in another FASIT, and

''(G) any regular interest in a REMIC.

''(2) DEBT ISSUED BY HOLDER OF OWNERSHIP INTEREST NOT PERMITTED ASSET.—The term 'permitted asset' shall not include any debt instrument issued by the holder of the ownership interest in the FASIT or by any person related to such holder or any direct or indirect interest in such a debt instrument. The preceding sentence shall not apply to cash equivalents and to any other investment specified in regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

''(3) FORECLOSURE PROPERTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'foreclosure property' means property—

''(i) which would be foreclosure property under section 856(e) (determined without regard to paragraph (5) thereof) if such property were real property acquired by a real estate investment trust, and

''(ii) which is acquired in connection with the default or imminent default of a debt instrument held by the FASIT unless the security interest in

such property was created for the principal purpose of permitting the FASIT to invest in such property.

Solely for purposes of subsection (a)(1), the determination of whether any property is foreclosure property shall be made without regard to section 856(e)(4).

''(B) AUTHORITY TO REDUCE GRACE PERIOD.—In the case of property other than real property and other than personal property incident to real property, the Secretary may by regulation reduce for purposes of subparagraph (A) the periods otherwise applicable under paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 856(e).

''(d) STARTUP DAY.—For purposes of this part—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'startup day' means the date designated in the election under subsection (a)(3) as the startup day of the FASIT. Such day shall be the beginning of the first taxable year of the FASIT.

''(2) TREATMENT OF PROPERTY HELD ON STARTUP DAY.—All property held (or treated as held under section 860I(c)(2)) by an entity as of the startup day shall be treated as contributed to such entity on such day by the holder of the ownership interest in such entity.

''(e) TAX ON PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed for each taxable year of a FASIT a tax equal to 100 percent of the net income derived from prohibited transactions. Such tax shall be paid by the holder of the ownership interest in the FASIT.

''(2) PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS.—For purposes of this part, the term 'prohibited transaction' means—

''(A) the receipt of any income derived from any asset that is not a permitted asset,

''(B) except as provided in paragraph (3), the disposition of any permitted asset,

''(C) the receipt of any income derived from any loan originated by the FASIT, and

''(D) the receipt of any income representing a fee or other compensation for services (other than any fee received as compensation for a waiver, amendment, or consent under permitted assets (other than foreclosure property) held by the FASIT).

''(3) EXCEPTION FOR INCOME FROM CERTAIN DISPOSITIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2)(B) shall not apply to a disposition which would not be a prohibited transaction (as defined in section 860F(a)(2)) by reason of—

''(i) clause (ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 860F(a)(2)(A), or

''(ii) section 860F(a)(5),

if the FASIT were treated as a REMIC and debt instruments described in subsection (c)(1)(B) were treated as qualified mortgages.

''(B) SUBSTITUTION OF DEBT INSTRUMENTS; REDUCTION OF OVER-COLLATERALIZATION.—Paragraph (2)(B) shall not apply to—

''(i) the substitution of a debt instrument described in subsection (c)(1)(B) for another debt instrument which is a permitted asset, or

''(ii) the distribution of a debt instrument contributed by the holder of the ownership interest to such holder in order to reduce over-collateralization of the FASIT,

but only if a principal purpose of acquiring the debt instrument which is disposed of was not the recognition of gain (or the reduction of a loss) as a result of an increase in the market value of the debt instrument after its acquisition by the FASIT.

''(C) LIQUIDATION OF CLASS OF REGULAR INTERESTS.—Paragraph (2)(B) shall not apply to the complete liquidation of any class of regular interests.

''(4) NET INCOME.—For purposes of this subsection, net income shall be determined in accordance with section 860F(a)(3).

''(f) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROVISIONS.—

''(1) WASH SALES RULES.—Rules similar to the rules of section 860F(d) shall apply to the ownership interest in a FASIT.

''(2) SECTION 475.—Except as provided by the Secretary by regulations, if any security which is sold or contributed to a FASIT by the holder of the ownership interest in such FASIT was required to be marked-to-market under section 475 by such holder, section 475 shall continue to apply to such security; except that in applying section 475 while such security is held by the FASIT, the fair market value of such security for purposes of section 475 shall not be less than its value under section 860I(d).

''(g) RELATED PERSON.—For purposes of this part, a person (hereinafter in this subsection referred to as the 'related person') is related to any person if—

''(1) the related person bears a relationship to such person specified in section 267(b) or section 707(b)(1), or

''(2) the related person and such person are engaged in trades or businesses under common control (within the meaning of subsections (a) and (b) of section 52).

For purposes of paragraph (1), in applying section 267(b) or 707(b)(1), '20 percent' shall be substituted for '50 percent'.

''(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this part, including regulations to prevent the abuse of the purposes of this part through transactions which are not primarily related to securitization of debt instruments by a FASIT.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 26(b) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (M), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (N) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(O) section 860K (relating to treatment of transfers of high-yield interests to disqualified holders).''.

(2) Paragraph (6) of section 56(g) is amended by striking ''or REMIC'' and inserting ''REMIC, or FASIT''.

(3) Clause (ii) of section 382(l)(4)(B) is amended by striking ''or a REMIC to which part IV of subchapter M applies'' and inserting ''a REMIC to which part IV of subchapter M applies, or a FASIT to which part V of subchapter M applies''.

(4) Paragraph (1) of section 582(c) is amended by inserting '', and any regular interest in a FASIT,'' after ''REMIC''.

(5) Subparagraph (E) of section 856(c)(6) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''The principles of the preceding provisions of this subparagraph shall apply to regular interests in a FASIT.''.

(6) Paragraph (3) of section 860G(a) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

''(D) any regular interest in a FASIT which is transferred to, or purchased by, the REMIC as described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) but only if 95 percent or more of the value of the assets of such FASIT is at all times attributable to obligations described in subparagraph (A) (without regard to such clauses).''.

(7) Subparagraph (C) of section 1202(e)(4) is amended by striking ''or REMIC'' and inserting ''REMIC, or FASIT''.

(8) Clause (xi) of section 7701(a)(19)(C) is amended to read as follows:

''(xi) any regular or residual interest in a REMIC, and any regular interest in a FASIT, but only in the proportion which the assets of such REMIC or FASIT consist of property described in any of the preceding clauses of this subparagraph; except that if 95 percent or more of the assets of such REMIC or FASIT are assets described in clauses (i) through (x), the entire interest in the REMIC or FASIT shall qualify.''.

(9) Subparagraph (A) of section 7701(i)(2) is amended by inserting ''or a FASIT'' after ''a REMIC''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of parts for subchapter M of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Part V. Financial asset securitization investment trusts.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on September 1, 1997.

(e) TREATMENT OF EXISTING SECURITIZATION ENTITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of the holder of the ownership interest in a pre-effective date FASIT—

(A) gain shall not be recognized under section 860L(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 on property deemed contributed to the FASIT, and

(B) gain shall not be recognized under section 860I of such Code on property contributed to such FASIT,

until such property (or portion thereof) ceases to be properly allocable to a pre-FASIT interest.

(2) ALLOCATION OF PROPERTY TO PRE-FASIT INTEREST.—For purposes of paragraph (1), property shall be allocated to a pre-FASIT interest in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, except that all property in a FASIT shall be treated as properly allocable to pre-FASIT interests if the fair market value of all such property does not exceed 107 percent of the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding pre-FASIT interests.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) PRE-EFFECTIVE DATE FASIT.—The term ''pre-effective date FASIT'' means any FASIT if the entity (with respect to which the election under section 860L(a)(3) of such Code was made) is in existence on August 31, 1997.

(B) PRE-FASIT INTEREST.—The term ''pre-FASIT interest'' means any interest in the entity referred to in subparagraph (A) which was issued before the startup day (other than any interest held by the holder of the ownership interest in the FASIT).

Subtitle G—Technical Corrections

SEC. 1701. COORDINATION WITH OTHER SUBTITLES.

For purposes of applying the amendments made by any subtitle of this title other than this subtitle, the provisions of this subtitle shall be treated as having been enacted immediately before the provisions of such other subtitles.

SEC. 1702. AMENDMENTS RELATED TO REVENUE RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1990.

(a) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE A.—

(1) Subparagraph (B) of section 59(j)(3) is amended by striking ''section 1(i)(3)(B)'' and inserting ''section 1(g)(3)(B)''.

(2) Clause (i) of section 151(d)(3)(C) is amended by striking ''joint of a return'' and inserting ''joint return''.

(b) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE B.—

(1) Paragraph (1) of section 11212(e) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 is amended by striking ''Paragraph (1) of section 6724(d)'' and inserting ''Subparagraph (B) of section 6724(d)(1)''.

(2)(A) Subparagraph (B) of section 4093(c)(2), as in effect before the amendments made by the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993, is amended by inserting before the period ''unless such fuel is sold for exclusive use by a State or any political subdivision thereof''.

(B) Paragraph (4) of section 6427(l), as in effect before the amendments made by the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993, is amended by inserting before the period ''unless such fuel was used by a State or any political subdivision thereof''.

(3) Paragraph (1) of section 6416(b) is amended by striking ''chapter 32 or by section 4051'' and inserting ''chapter 31 or 32''.

(4) Section 7012 is amended—

(A) by striking ''production or importation of gasoline'' in paragraph (3) and inserting ''taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel'', and

(B) by striking paragraph (4) and redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively.

(5) Subsection (c) of section 5041 is amended by striking paragraph (6) and by inserting the following new paragraphs:

''(6) CREDIT FOR TRANSFEREE IN BOND.—If—

''(A) wine produced by any person would be eligible for any credit under paragraph (1) if removed by such person during the calendar year,

''(B) wine produced by such person is removed during such calendar year by any other person (hereafter in this paragraph referred to as the 'transferee') to whom such wine was transferred in bond and who is liable for the tax imposed by this section with respect to such wine, and

''(C) such producer holds title to such wine at the time of its removal and provides to the transferee such information as is necessary to properly determine the transferee's credit under this paragraph,

then, the transferee (and not the producer) shall be allowed the credit under paragraph (1) which would be allowed to the producer if the wine removed by the transferee had been removed by the producer on that date.

''(7) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection, including regulations—

''(A) to prevent the credit provided in this subsection from benefiting any person who produces more than 250,000 wine gallons of wine during a calendar year, and

''(B) to assure proper reduction of such credit for persons producing more than 150,000 wine gallons of wine during a calendar year.''.

(6) Paragraph (3) of section 5061(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) section 5041(f),''.

(7) Section 5354 is amended by inserting ''(taking into account the appropriate amount of credit with respect to such wine under section 5041(c))'' after ''any one time''.

(c) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE C.—

(1) Paragraph (4) of section 56(g) is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (I) and (J) as subparagraphs (H) and (I), respectively.

(2) Subparagraph (B) of section 6724(d)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (xii), and

(B) by striking the period at the end of clause (xiii) and inserting '', or''.

(3) Subsection (g) of section 6302 is amended by inserting '', 22,'' after ''chapters 21''.

(4) The earnings and profits of any insurance company to which section 11305(c)(3) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 applies shall be determined without regard to any deduction allowed under such section; except that, for purposes of applying sections 56 and 902, and subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, such deduction shall be taken into account.

(5) Subparagraph (D) of section 6038A(e)(4) is amended—

(A) by striking ''any transaction to which the summons relates'' and inserting ''any affected taxable year'', and

(B) by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: ''For purposes of this subparagraph, the term 'affected taxable year' means any taxable year if the determination of the amount of tax imposed for such taxable year is affected by the treatment of the transaction to which the summons relates.''.

(6) Subparagraph (A) of section 6621(c)(2) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new flush sentence:

''The preceding sentence shall be applied without regard to any such letter or notice which is withdrawn by the Secretary.''.

(7) Clause (i) of section 6621(c)(2)(B) is amended by striking ''this subtitle'' and inserting ''this title''.

(d) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE D.—

(1) Notwithstanding section 11402(c) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990, the amendment made by section 11402(b)(1) of such Act shall apply to taxable years ending after December 31, 1989.

(2) Clause (ii) of section 143(m)(4)(C) is amended—

(A) by striking ''any month of the 10-year period'' and inserting ''any year of the 4-year period'',

(B) by striking ''succeeding months'' and inserting ''succeeding years'', and

(C) by striking ''over the remainder of such period (or, if lesser, 5 years)'' and inserting ''to zero over the succeeding 5 years''.

(e) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE E.—

(1)(A) Clause (ii) of section 56(d)(1)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii) appropriate adjustments in the application of section 172(b)(2) shall be made to take into account the limitation of subparagraph (A).''.

(B) For purposes of applying sections 56(g)(1) and 56(g)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to taxable years beginning in 1991 and 1992, the reference in such sections to the alternative tax net operating loss deduction shall be treated as including a reference to the deduction under section 56(h) of such Code as in effect before the amendments made by section 1915 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

(2) Clause (i) of section 613A(c)(3)(A) is amended by striking ''the table contained in''.

(3) Section 6501 is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (m) (relating to deficiency attributable to election under section 44B) and by redesignating subsections (n) and (o) as subsections (m) and (n), respectively, and

(B) by striking ''section 40(f) or 51(j)'' in subsection (m) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)) and inserting ''section 40(f), 43, or 51(j)''.

(4) Subparagraph (C) of section 38(c)(2) (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990) is amended by inserting before the period at the end of the first sentence the following: ''and without regard to the deduction under section 56(h)''.

(5) The amendment made by section 1913(b)(2)(C)(i) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1990.

(f) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE F.—

(1)(A) Section 2701(a)(3) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subparagraph:

''(C) VALUATION OF QUALIFIED PAYMENTS WHERE NO LIQUIDATION, ETC. RIGHTS.—In the case of an applicable retained interest which is described in subparagraph (B)(i) but not subparagraph (B)(ii), the value of the distribution right shall be determined without regard to this section.''.

(B) Section 2701(a)(3)(B) is amended by inserting ''CERTAIN'' before ''QUALIFIED'' in the heading thereof.

(C) Sections 2701 (d)(1) and (d)(4) are each amended by striking ''subsection (a)(3)(B)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)(3) (B) or (C)''.

(2) Clause (i) of section 2701(a)(4)(B) is amended by inserting ''(or, to the extent provided in regulations, the rights as to either income or capital)'' after ''income and capital''.

(3)(A) Section 2701(b)(2) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subparagraph:

''(C) APPLICABLE FAMILY MEMBER.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'applicable family member' includes any lineal descendant of any parent of the transferor or the transferor's spouse.''.

(B) Section 2701(e)(3) is amended—

(i) by striking subparagraph (B), and

(ii) by striking so much of paragraph (3) as precedes ''shall be treated as holding'' and inserting:

''(3) ATTRIBUTION OF INDIRECT HOLDINGS AND TRANSFERS.—An individual''.

(C) Section 2704(c)(3) is amended by striking ''section 2701(e)(3)(A)'' and inserting ''section 2701(e)(3)''.

(4) Clause (i) of section 2701(c)(1)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(i) a right to distributions with respect to any interest which is junior to the rights of the transferred interest,''.

(5)(A) Clause (i) of section 2701(c)(3)(C) is amended to read as follows:

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Payments under any interest held by a transferor which (without regard to this subparagraph) are qualified payments shall be treated as qualified payments unless the transferor elects not to treat such payments as qualified payments. Payments described in the preceding sentence which are held by an applicable family member shall be treated as qualified payments only if such member elects to treat such payments as qualified payments.''.

(B) The first sentence of section 2701(c)(3)(C)(ii) is amended to read as follows: ''A transferor or applicable family member holding any distribution right which (without regard to this subparagraph) is not a qualified payment may elect to treat such right as a qualified payment, to be paid in the amounts and at the times specified in such election.''.

(C) The time for making an election under the second sentence of section 2701(c)(3)(C)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended by subparagraph (A)) shall not expire before the due date (including extensions) for filing the transferor's return of the tax imposed by section 2501 of such Code for the first calendar year ending after the date of enactment.

(6) Section 2701(d)(3)(A)(iii) is amended by striking ''the period ending on the date of''.

(7) Subclause (I) of section 2701(d)(3)(B)(ii) is amended by inserting ''or the exclusion under section 2503(b),'' after ''section 2523,''.

(8) Section 2701(e)(5) is amended—

(A) by striking ''such contribution to capital or such redemption, recapitalization, or other change'' in subparagraph (A) and inserting ''such transaction'', and

(B) by striking ''the transfer'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''such transaction''.

(9) Section 2701(d)(4) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subparagraph:

''(C) TRANSFER TO TRANSFEROR.—In the case of a taxable event described in paragraph (3)(A)(ii) involving a transfer of an applicable retained interest from an applicable family member to a transferor, this subsection shall continue to apply to the transferor during any period the transferor holds such interest.''.

(10) Section 2701(e)(6) is amended by inserting ''or to reflect the application of subsection (d)'' before the period at the end thereof.

(11)(A) Section 2702(a)(3)(A) is amended—

(i) by striking ''to the extent'' and inserting ''if'' in clause (i),

(ii) by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (i),

(iii) by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) and inserting '', or'', and

(iv) by adding at the end thereof the following new clause:

''(iii) to the extent that regulations provide that such transfer is not inconsistent with the purposes of this section.''.

(B)(i) Section 2702(a)(3) is amended by striking ''incomplete transfer'' each place it appears and inserting ''incomplete gift''.

(ii) The heading for section 2702(a)(3)(B) is amended by striking ''INCOMPLETE TRANSFER'' and inserting ''INCOMPLETE GIFT''.

(g) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE G.—

(1)(A) Subsection (a) of section 1248 is amended—

(i) by striking '', or if a United States person receives a distribution from a foreign corporation which, under section 302 or 331, is treated as an exchange of stock'' in paragraph (1), and

(ii) by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: ''For purposes of this section, a United States person shall be treated as having

sold or exchanged any stock if, under any provision of this subtitle, such person is treated as realizing gain from the sale or exchange of such stock.''.

(B) Paragraph (1) of section 1248(e) is amended by striking '', or receives a distribution from a domestic corporation which, under section 302 or 331, is treated as an exchange of stock''.

(C) Subparagraph (B) of section 1248(f)(1) is amended by striking ''or 361(c)(1)'' and inserting ''355(c)(1), or 361(c)(1)''.

(D) Paragraph (1) of section 1248(i) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If any shareholder of a 10-percent corporate shareholder of a foreign corporation exchanges stock of the 10-percent corporate shareholder for stock of the foreign corporation, such 10-percent corporate shareholder shall recognize gain in the same manner as if the stock of the foreign corporation received in such exchange had been—

''(A) issued to the 10-percent corporate shareholder, and

''(B) then distributed by the 10-percent corporate shareholder to such shareholder in redemption or liquidation (whichever is appropriate).

The amount of gain recognized by such 10-percent corporate shareholder under the preceding sentence shall not exceed the amount treated as a dividend under this section.''.

(2) Section 897 is amended by striking subsection (f).

(3) Paragraph (13) of section 4975(d) is amended by striking ''section 408(b)'' and inserting ''section 408(b)(12)''.

(4) Clause (iii) of section 56(g)(4)(D) is amended by inserting '', but only with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1989'' before the period at the end thereof.

(5)(A) Paragraph (11) of section 11701(a) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 (and the amendment made by such paragraph) are hereby repealed, and section 7108(r)(2) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1989 shall be applied as if such paragraph (and amendment) had never been enacted.

(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any building if the owner of such building establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate that such owner reasonably relied on the amendment made by such paragraph (11).

(h) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SUBTITLE H.—

(1)(A) Clause (vi) of section 168(e)(3)(B) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subclause (I), by striking the period at the end of subclause (II) and inserting '', or'', and by adding at the end thereof the following new subclause:

''(III) is described in section 48(l)(3)(A)(ix) (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990).''.

(B) Subparagraph (B) of section 168(e)(3) (relating to 5-year property) is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''Nothing in any provision of law shall be construed to treat property as not being described in clause (vi)(I) (or the corresponding provisions of prior law) by reason of being public utility property (within the meaning of section 48(a)(3)).''.

(C) Subparagraph (K) of section 168(g)(4) is amended by striking ''section 48(a)(3)(A)(iii)'' and inserting ''section 48(l)(3)(A)(ix) (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990)''.

(2) Clause (ii) of section 172(b)(1)(E) is amended by striking ''subsection (m)'' and inserting ''subsection (h)''.

(3) Sections 805(a)(4)(E), 832(b)(5)(C)(ii)(II), and 832(b)(5)(D)(ii)(II) are each amended by striking ''243(b)(5)'' and inserting ''243(b)(2)''.

(4) Subparagraph (A) of section 243(b)(3) is amended by inserting ''of'' after ''In the case''.

(5) The subsection heading for subsection (a) of section 280F is amended by striking ''INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT AND''.

(6) Clause (i) of section 1504(c)(2)(B) is amended by inserting ''section'' before ''243(b)(2)''.

(7) Paragraph (3) of section 341(f) is amended by striking ''351, 361, 371(a), or 374(a)'' and inserting ''351, or 361''.

(8) Paragraph (2) of section 243(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) AFFILIATED GROUP.—For purposes of this subsection:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'affiliated group' has the meaning given such term by section 1504(a), except that for such purposes sections 1504(b)(2), 1504(b)(4), and 1504(c) shall not apply.

''(B) GROUP MUST BE CONSISTENT IN FOREIGN TAX TREATMENT.—The requirements of paragraph (1)(A) shall not be treated as being met with respect to any dividend received by a corporation if, for any taxable year which includes the day on which such dividend is received—

''(i) 1 or more members of the affiliated group referred to in paragraph (1)(A) choose to any extent to take the benefits of section 901, and

''(ii) 1 or more other members of such group claim to any extent a deduction for taxes otherwise creditable under section 901.''.

(9) The amendment made by section 11813(b)(17) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if the material stricken by such amendment included the closing parenthesis after ''section 48(a)(5)''.

(10) Paragraph (1) of section 179(d) is amended by striking ''in a trade or business'' and inserting ''a trade or business''.

(11) Subparagraph (E) of section 50(a)(2) is amended by striking ''section 48(a)(5)(A)'' and inserting ''section 48(a)(5)''.

(12) The amendment made by section 11801(c)(9)(G)(ii) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if it struck ''Section 422A(c)(2)'' and inserted ''Section 422(c)(2)''.

(13) Subparagraph (B) of section 424(c)(3) is amended by striking ''a qualified stock option, an incentive stock option, an option granted under an employee stock purchase plan, or a restricted stock option'' and inserting ''an incentive stock option or an option granted under an employee stock purchase plan''.

(14) Subparagraph (E) of section 1367(a)(2) is amended by striking ''section 613A(c)(13)(B)'' and inserting ''section 613A(c)(11)(B)''.

(15) Subparagraph (B) of section 460(e)(6) is amended by striking ''section 167(k)'' and inserting ''section 168(e)(2)(A)(ii)''.

(16) Subparagraph (C) of section 172(h)(4) is amended by striking ''subsection (b)(1)(M)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(1)(E)''.

(17) Section 6503 is amended—

(A) by redesignating the subsection relating to extension in case of certain summonses as subsection (j), and

(B) by redesignating the subsection relating to cross references as subsection (k).

(18) Paragraph (4) of section 1250(e) is hereby repealed.

(19) Paragraph (1) of section 179(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Such term shall not include any property described in section 50(b) and shall not include air conditioning or heating units.''.

''(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, any amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the provision of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 to which such amendment relates.''.

SEC. 1703. AMENDMENTS RELATED TO REVENUE RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1993.

(a) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13114.—Paragraph (2) of section 1044(c) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) PURCHASE.—The taxpayer shall be considered to have purchased any property if, but for subsection (d), the unadjusted basis of such property would be its cost within the meaning of section 1012.''.

(b) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SECTION 13142.—

(1) Subparagraph (B) of section 13142(b)(6) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 is amended to read as follows:

''(B) FULL-TIME STUDENTS, WAIVER AUTHORITY, AND PROHIBITED DISCRIMINATION.—The amendments made by paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.''.

(2) Subparagraph (C) of section 13142(b)(6) of such Act is amended by striking ''paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (5)''.

(c) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13161.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 4001 (relating to inflation adjustment) is amended to read as follows:

''(e) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The $30,000 amount in subsection (a) and section 4003(a) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

''(A) $30,000, multiplied by

''(B) the cost-of-living adjustment under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the vehicle is sold, determined by substituting 'calendar year 1990' for 'calendar year 1992' in subparagraph (B) thereof.

''(2) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of $2,000, such amount shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of $2,000.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13201.—Clause (ii) of section 135(b)(2)(B) is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof the following: '', determined by substituting 'calendar year 1989' for 'calendar year 1992' in subparagraph (B) thereof''.

(e) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SECTION 13203.—Subsection (a) of section 59 is amended—

(1) by striking ''the amount determined under section 55(b)(1)(A)'' in paragraph (1)(A) and (2)(A)(i) and inserting ''the pre-credit tentative minimum tax'',

(2) by striking ''specified in section 55(b)(1)(A)'' in paragraph (1)(C) and inserting ''specified in subparagraph (A)(i) or (B)(i) of section 55(b)(1) (whichever applies)'',

(3) by striking ''which would be determined under section 55(b)(1)(A)'' in paragraph (2)(A)(ii) and inserting ''which would be the pre-credit tentative minimum tax'', and

(4) by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

''(3) PRE-CREDIT TENTATIVE MINIMUM TAX.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'pre-credit tentative minimum tax' means—

''(A) in the case of a taxpayer other than a corporation, the amount determined under the first sentence of section 55(b)(1)(A)(i), or

''(B) in the case of a corporation, the amount determined under section 55(b)(1)(B)(i).''.

(f) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13221.—Sections 1201(a) and 1561(a) are each amended by striking ''last sentence'' each place it appears and inserting ''last 2 sentences''.

(g) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SECTION 13222.—

(1) Subparagraph (B) of section 6033(e)(1) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new clause:

''(iii) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 527(f).—This subsection shall not apply to any amount on which tax is imposed by reason of section 527(f).''.

(2) Clause (i) of section 6033(e)(1)(B) is amended by striking ''this subtitle'' and inserting ''section 501''.

(h) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13225.—Paragraph (3) of section 6655(g) is amended by striking all that follows '''3rd month''' in the sentence following subparagraph (C) and inserting '', subsection (e)(2)(A) shall be applied by substituting '2 months' for '3 months' in clause (i)(I), the election under clause (i) of subsection (e)(2)(C) may be made separately for each installment, and clause (ii) of subsection (e)(2)(C) shall not apply.''.

(i) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO SECTION 13231.—

(1) Subparagraph (G) of section 904(d)(3) is amended by striking ''section 951(a)(1)(B)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 951(a)(1)''.

(2) Paragraph (1) of section 956A(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) the amount (not including a deficit) referred to in section 316(a)(1) to the extent such amount was accumulated in prior taxable years beginning after September 30, 1993, and''.

(3) Subsection (f) of section 956A is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof: ''and regulations coordinating the provisions of subsections (c)(3)(A) and (d)''.

(4) Subsection (b) of section 958 is amended by striking ''956(b)(2)'' each place it appears and inserting ''956(c)(2)''.

(5)(A) Subparagraph (A) of section 1297(d)(2) is amended by striking ''The adjusted basis of any asset'' and inserting ''The amount taken into account under section 1296(a)(2) with respect to any asset''.

(B) The paragraph heading of paragraph (2) of section 1297(d) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) AMOUNT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—''.

(6) Subsection (e) of section 1297 is amended by inserting ''For purposes of this part—'' after the subsection heading.

(j) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13241.—Subparagraph (B) of section 40(e)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) for any period before January 1, 2001, during which the rates of tax under section 4081(a)(2)(A) are 4.3 cents per gallon.''.

(k) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13242.—Paragraph (4) of section 6427(f) is amended by striking ''1995'' and inserting ''1999''.

(l) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13261.—Clause (iii) of section 13261(g)(2)(A) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 is amended by striking ''by the taxpayer'' and inserting ''by the taxpayer or a related person''.

(m) AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 13301.—Subparagraph (B) of section 1397B(d)(5) is amended by striking ''preceding''.

(n) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (d) of section 39 is amended—

(A) by striking ''45'' in the heading of paragraph (5) and inserting ''45A'', and

(B) by striking ''45'' in the heading of paragraph (6) and inserting ''45B''.

(2) Subparagraph (A) of section 108(d)(9) is amended by striking ''paragraph (3)(B)'' and inserting ''paragraph (3)(C)''.

(3) Subparagraph (C) of section 143(d)(2) is amended by striking the period at the end thereof and inserting a comma.

(4) Clause (ii) of section 163(j)(6)(E) is amended by striking ''which is a'' and inserting ''which is''.

(5) Subparagraph (A) of section 1017(b)(4) is amended by striking ''subsection (b)(2)(D)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(2)(E)''.

(6) So much of section 1245(a)(3) as precedes subparagraph (A) thereof is amended to read as follows:

''(3) SECTION 1245 PROPERTY.—For purposes of this section, the term 'section 1245 property' means any property which is or has been property of a character subject to the allowance for depreciation provided in section 167 and is either—''.

(7) Paragraph (2) of section 1394(e) is amended—

(A) by striking ''(i)'' and inserting ''(A)'', and

(B) by striking ''(ii)'' and inserting ''(B)''.

(8) Subsection (m) of section 6501 (as redesignated by section 1602) is amended by striking ''or 51(j)'' and inserting ''45B, or 51(j)''.

(9)(A) The section 6714 added by section 13242(b)(1) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 is hereby redesignated as section 6715.

(B) The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by striking ''6714'' in the item added by such section 13242(b)(2) of such Act and inserting ''6715''.

(10) Paragraph (2) of section 9502(b) is amended by inserting ''and before'' after ''1982,''.

(11) Subsection (a)(3) of section 13206 of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 is amended by striking ''this section'' and inserting ''this subsection''.

(12) Paragraph (1) of section 13215(c) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 is amended by striking ''Public Law 92–21'' and inserting ''Public Law 98–21''.

(13) Paragraph (2) of section 13311(e) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 is amended by striking ''section 1393(a)(3)'' and inserting ''section 1393(a)(2)''.

(14) Subparagraph (B) of section 117(d)(2) is amended by striking ''section 132(f)'' and inserting ''section 132(h)''.

(o) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the provision of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 to which such amendment relates.

SEC. 1704. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

(a) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS MADE BY TITLE XII OF OMNIBUS BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1990.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in title XII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS UNDER HEDGE BOND RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iii) of section 149(g)(3)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(iii) AMOUNTS HELD PENDING REINVESTMENT OR REDEMPTION.—Amounts held for not more than 30 days pending reinvestment or bond redemption shall be treated as invested in bonds described in clause (i).''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 7651 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989.

(c) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISTRIBUTIONS UNDER SECTION 1445.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 1445(e) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: ''Rules similar to the rules of the preceding provisions of this paragraph shall apply in the case of any distribution to which section 301 applies and which is not made out of the earnings and profits of such a domestic corporation.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to distributions after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN CREDITS UNDER SECTION 469.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 469(c)(3) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: ''If the preceding sentence applies to the net income from any property for any taxable year, any credits allowable under subpart B (other than section 27(a)) or D of part IV of subchapter A for such taxable year which are attributable to such property shall be treated as credits not from a passive activity to the extent the amount of such credits does not exceed the regular tax liability of the taxpayer for the taxable year which is allocable to such net income.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986.

(e) TREATMENT OF DISPOSITIONS UNDER PASSIVE LOSS RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 469(g)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If all gain or loss realized on such disposition is recognized, the excess of—

''(i) any loss from such activity for such taxable year (determined after the application of subsection (b)), over

''(ii) any net income or gain for such taxable year from all other passive activities (determined after the application of subsection (b)),

shall be treated as a loss which is not from a passive activity.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986.

(f) MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS TO FOREIGN PROVISIONS.—

(1) COORDINATION OF UNIFIED ESTATE TAX CREDIT WITH TREATIES.—Subparagraph (A) of section 2102(c)(3) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: ''For purposes of the preceding sentence, property shall not be treated as situated in the United States if such property is exempt from the tax imposed by this subchapter under any treaty obligation of the United States.''.

(2) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INTEREST PAID TO RELATED PERSON.—

(A) Subparagraph (B) of section 163(j)(1) is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof the following: ''(and clause (ii) of paragraph (2)(A) shall not apply for purposes of applying this subsection to the amount so treated)''.

(B) Subsection (j) of section 163 is amended by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8) and by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:

''(7) COORDINATION WITH PASSIVE LOSS RULES, ETC.—This subsection shall be applied before sections 465 and 469.''.

(C) The amendments made by this paragraph shall apply as if included in the amendments made by section 7210(a) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1989.

(3) TREATMENT OF INTEREST ALLOCABLE TO EFFECTIVELY CONNECTED INCOME.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—

(i) Subparagraph (B) of section 884(f)(1) is amended by striking ''to the extent'' and all that follows down through ''subparagraph (A)'' and inserting ''to the extent that the allocable interest exceeds the interest described in subparagraph (A)''.

(ii) The second sentence of section 884(f)(1) is amended by striking ''reasonably expected'' and all that follows down through the period at the end thereof and inserting ''reasonably expected to be allocable interest.''.

(iii) Paragraph (2) of section 884(f) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) ALLOCABLE INTEREST.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'allocable interest' means any interest which is allocable to income which is effectively connected (or treated as effectively connected) with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States.''.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subparagraph (A) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1241(a) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

(4) CLARIFICATION OF SOURCE RULE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 865(b) is amended by striking ''863(b)'' and inserting ''863''.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subparagraph (A) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1211 of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

(5) REPEAL OF OBSOLETE PROVISIONS.—

(A) Paragraph (1) of section 6038(a) is amended by striking '', and'' at the end of subparagraph (E) and inserting a period, and by striking subparagraph (F).

(B) Subsection (b) of section 6038A is amended by adding ''and'' at the end of paragraph (2), by striking '', and'' at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting a period, and by striking paragraph (4).

(g) CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF MEDICARE ENTITLEMENT UNDER COBRA PROVISIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) Subclause (V) of section 4980B(f)(2)(B)(i) is amended to read as follows:

''(V) MEDICARE ENTITLEMENT FOLLOWED BY QUALIFYING EVENT.—In the case of a qualifying event described in paragraph (3)(B) that occurs less than 18 months after the date the covered employee became entitled to benefits under title

XVIII of the Social Security Act, the period of coverage for qualified beneficiaries other than the covered employee shall not terminate under this clause before the close of the 36-month period beginning on the date the covered employee became so entitled.''.

(B) Clause (v) of section 602(2)(A) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 is amended to read as follows:

''(v) MEDICARE ENTITLEMENT FOLLOWED BY QUALIFYING EVENT.—In the case of a qualifying event described in section 603(2) that occurs less than 18 months after the date the covered employee became entitled to benefits under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, the period of coverage for qualified beneficiaries other than the covered employee shall not terminate under this subparagraph before the close of the 36-month period beginning on the date the covered employee became so entitled.''.

(C) Clause (iv) of section 2202(2)(A) of the Public Health Service Act is amended to read as follows:

''(iv) MEDICARE ENTITLEMENT FOLLOWED BY QUALIFYING EVENT.—In the case of a qualifying event described in section 2203(2) that occurs less than 18 months after the date the covered employee became entitled to benefits under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, the period of coverage for qualified beneficiaries other than the covered employee shall not terminate under this subparagraph before the close of the 36-month period beginning on the date the covered employee became so entitled.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 1989.

(h) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN REMIC INCLUSIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 860E is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

''(6) COORDINATION WITH MINIMUM TAX.—For purposes of part VI of subchapter A of this chapter—

''(A) the reference in section 55(b)(2) to taxable income shall be treated as a reference to taxable income determined without regard to this subsection,

''(B) the alternative minimum taxable income of any holder of a residual interest in a REMIC for any taxable year shall in no event be less than the excess inclusion for such taxable year, and

''(C) any excess inclusion shall be disregarded for purposes of computing the alternative tax net operating loss deduction.

The preceding sentence shall not apply to any organization to which section 593 applies, except to the extent provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary under paragraph (2).''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 671 of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 unless the taxpayer elects to apply such amendment only to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(i) EXEMPTION FROM HARBOR MAINTENANCE TAX FOR CERTAIN PASSENGERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 4462(b)(1) (relating to special rule for Alaska, Hawaii, and possessions) is amended by inserting before the period the following: '', or passengers transported on United States flag vessels operating solely within the State waters of Alaska or Hawaii and adjacent international waters''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1402(a) of the Harbor Maintenance Revenue Act of 1986.

(j) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO REVENUE PROVISIONS OF ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 1992.—

(1) Effective with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1990, subclause (II) of section 53(d)(1)(B)(iv) is amended to read as follows:

''(II) the adjusted net minimum tax for any taxable year is the amount of the net minimum tax for such year increased in the manner provided in clause (iii).''.

(2) Subsection (g) of section 179A is redesignated as subsection (f).

(3) Subparagraph (E) of section 6724(d)(3) is amended by striking ''section 6109(f)'' and inserting ''section 6109(h)''.

(4)(A) Subsection (d) of section 30 is amended—

(i) by inserting ''(determined without regard to subsection (b)(3))'' before the period at the end of paragraph (1) thereof, and

(ii) by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

''(4) ELECTION TO NOT TAKE CREDIT.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) for any vehicle if the taxpayer elects to not have this section apply to such vehicle.''.

(B) Subsection (m) of section 6501 (as redesignated by section 1602) is amended by striking ''section 40(f)'' and inserting ''section 30(d)(4), 40(f)''.

(5) Subclause (III) of section 501(c)(21)(D)(ii) is amended by striking ''section 101(6)'' and inserting ''section 101(7)'' and by striking ''1752(6)'' and inserting ''1752(7)''.

(6) Paragraph (1) of section 1917(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 shall be applied as if ''at a rate'' appeared instead of ''at the rate'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(7) Paragraph (2) of section 1921(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 shall be applied as if a comma appeared after ''(2)'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(8) Subsection (a) of section 1937 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 shall be applied as if ''Subpart B'' appeared instead of ''Subpart C''.

(k) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED FOOTBALL COACHES PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, a qualified football coaches plan—

(A) shall be treated as a multiemployer collectively bargained plan, and

(B) notwithstanding section 401(k)(4)(B) of such Code, may include a qualified cash and deferred arrangement under section 401(k) of such Code.

(2) QUALIFIED FOOTBALL COACHES PLAN.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ''qualified football coaches plan'' means any defined contribution plan which is established and maintained by an organization—

(A) which is described in section 501(c) of such Code,

(B) the membership of which consists entirely of individuals who primarily coach football as full-time employees of 4-year colleges or universities described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) of such Code, and

(C) which was in existence on September 18, 1986.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall apply to years beginning after December 22, 1987.

(l) DETERMINATION OF UNRECOVERED INVESTMENT IN ANNUITY CONTRACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 72(b)(4) is amended by inserting ''(determined without regard to subsection (c)(2))'' after ''contract''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1122(c) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

(m) MODIFICATIONS TO ELECTION TO INCLUDE CHILD'S INCOME ON PARENT'S RETURN.—

(1) ELIGIBILITY FOR ELECTION.—Clause (ii) of section 1(g)(7)(A) (relating to election to include certain unearned income of child on parent's return) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii) such gross income is more than the amount described in paragraph (4)(A)(ii)(I) and less than 10 times the amount so described,''.

(2) COMPUTATION OF TAX.—Subparagraph (B) of section 1(g)(7) (relating to income included on parent's return) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$1,000'' in clause (i) and inserting ''twice the amount described in paragraph (4)(A)(ii)(I)'', and

(B) by amending subclause (II) of clause (ii) to read as follows:

''(II) for each such child, 15 percent of the lesser of the amount described in paragraph (4)(A)(ii)(I) or the excess of the gross income of such child over the amount so described, and''.

(3) MINIMUM TAX.—Subparagraph (B) of section 59(j)(1) is amended by striking ''$1,000'' and inserting ''twice the amount in effect for the taxable year under section 63(c)(5)(A)''.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

(n) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN VETERANS' REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 414 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(u) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO VETERANS' REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS UNDER USERRA.—

''(1) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS MADE PURSUANT TO VETERANS' REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS.—If any contribution is made by an employer or an employee under an individual account plan with respect to an employee, or by an employee to a defined benefit plan that provides for employee contributions, and such contribution is required by reason of such employee's rights under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, resulting from qualified military service, then—

''(A) such contribution shall not be subject to any otherwise applicable limitation contained in section 402(g), 402(h), 403(b), 404(a), 404(h), 408, 415, or 457, and shall not be taken into account in applying such limitations to other contributions or benefits under such plan or any other plan, with respect to the year in which the contribution is made,

''(B) such contribution shall be subject to the limitations referred to in subparagraph (A) with respect to the year to which the contribution relates (in accordance with rules prescribed by the Secretary), and

''(C) such plan shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of section 401(a)(4), 401(a)(26), 401(k)(3), 401(k)(11), 401(k)(12), 401(m), 403(b)(12), 408(k)(3), 408(k)(6), 408(p), 410(b), or 416 by reason of the making of (or the right to make) such contribution.

For purposes of the preceding sentence, any elective deferral or employee contribution made under paragraph (2) shall be treated as required by reason of the employee's rights under such chapter 43.

''(2) REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS UNDER USERRA WITH RESPECT TO ELECTIVE DEFERRALS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subchapter and section 457, if an employee is entitled to the benefits of chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, with respect to any plan which provides for elective deferrals, the employer sponsoring the plan shall be treated as meeting the requirements of such chapter 43 with respect to such elective deferrals only if such employer—

''(i) permits such employee to make additional elective deferrals under such plan (in the amount determined under subparagraph (B) or such lesser amount as is elected by the employee) during the period which begins on the date of the reemployment of such employee with such employer and has the same length as the lesser of—

''(I) the product of 3 and the period of qualified military service which resulted in such rights, and

''(II) 5 years, and

''(ii) makes a matching contribution with respect to any additional elective deferral made pursuant to clause (i) which would have been required had such deferral actually been made during the period of such qualified military service.

''(B) AMOUNT OF MAKEUP REQUIRED.—The amount determined under this subparagraph

with respect to any plan is the maximum amount of the elective deferrals that the individual would have been permitted to make under the plan in accordance with the limitations referred to in paragraph (1)(A) during the period of qualified military service if the individual had continued to be employed by the employer during such period and received compensation as determined under paragraph (7). Proper adjustment shall be made to the amount determined under the preceding sentence for any elective deferrals actually made during the period of such qualified military service.

''(C) ELECTIVE DEFERRAL.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'elective deferral' has the meaning given such term by section 402(g)(3); except that such term shall include any deferral of compensation under an eligible deferred compensation plan (as defined in section 457(b)).

''(D) AFTER-TAX EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS.—References in subparagraphs (A) and (B) to elective deferrals shall be treated as including references to employee contributions.

''(3) CERTAIN RETROACTIVE ADJUSTMENTS NOT REQUIRED.—For purposes of this subchapter and subchapter E, no provision of chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, shall be construed as requiring—

''(A) any crediting of earnings to an employee with respect to any contribution before such contribution is actually made, or

''(B) any allocation of any forfeiture with respect to the period of qualified military service.

''(4) LOAN REPAYMENT SUSPENSIONS PERMITTED.—If any plan suspends the obligation to repay any loan made to an employee from such plan for any part of any period during which such employee is performing service in the uniformed services (as defined in chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code), whether or not qualified military service, such suspension shall not be taken into account for purposes of section 72(p), 401(a), or 4975(d)(1).

''(5) QUALIFIED MILITARY SERVICE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'qualified military service' means any service in the uniformed services (as defined in chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code) by any individual if such individual is entitled to reemployment rights under such chapter with respect to such service.

''(6) INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNT PLAN.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'individual account plan' means any defined contribution plan (including any tax-sheltered annuity plan under section 403(b), any simplified employee pension under section 408(k), any qualified salary reduction arrangement under section 408(p), and any eligible deferred compensation plan (as defined in section 457(b)).

''(7) COMPENSATION.—For purposes of sections 403(b)(3), 415(c)(3), and 457(e)(5), an employee who is in qualified military service shall be treated as receiving compensation from the employer during such period of qualified military service equal to—

''(A) the compensation the employee would have received during such period if the employee were not in qualified military service, determined based on the rate of pay the employee would have received from the employer but for absence during the period of qualified military service, or

''(B) if the compensation the employee would have received during such period was not reasonably certain, the employee's average compensation from the employer during the 12-month period immediately preceding the qualified military service (or, if shorter, the period of employment immediately preceding the qualified military service).

''(8) USERRA REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFIED RETIREMENT PLANS.—For purposes of this subchapter and section 457, an employer sponsoring a retirement plan shall be treated as meeting the requirements of chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, only if each of the following requirements is met:

''(A) An individual reemployed under such chapter is treated with respect to such plan as not having incurred a break in service with the employer maintaining the plan by reason of such individual's period of qualified military service.

''(B) Each period of qualified military service served by an individual is, upon reemployment under such chapter, deemed with respect to such plan to constitute service with the employer maintaining the plan for the purpose of determining the nonforfeitability of the individual's accrued benefits under such plan and for the purpose of determining the accrual of benefits under such plan.

''(C) An individual reemployed under such chapter is entitled to accrued benefits that are contingent on the making of, or derived from, employee contributions or elective deferrals only to the extent the individual makes payment to the plan with respect to such contributions or deferrals. No such payment may exceed the amount the individual would have been permitted or required to contribute had the individual remained continuously employed by the employer throughout the period of qualified military service. Any payment to such plan shall be made during the period beginning with the date of reemployment and whose duration is 3 times the period of the qualified military service (but not greater than 5 years).

''(9) PLANS NOT SUBJECT TO TITLE 38.—This subsection shall not apply to any retirement plan to which chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, does not apply.

''(10) REFERENCES.—For purposes of this section, any reference to chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, shall be treated as a reference to such chapter as in effect on December 12, 1994 (without regard to any subsequent amendment).''.

(2) AMENDMENT TO ERISA.—Section 408(b)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1148(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''A loan made by a plan shall not fail to meet the requirements of the preceding sentence by reason of a loan repayment suspension described under section 414(u)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.''

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall be effective as of December 12, 1994.

(o) REPORTING OF REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 6045(e) (relating to prohibition of separate charge for filing return) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prohibit the real estate reporting person from taking into account its cost of complying with such requirement in establishing its charge (other than a separate charge for complying with such requirement) to any customer for performing services in the case of a real estate transaction.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in section 1015(e)(2)(A) of the Technical and Miscellaneous Revenue Act of 1988.

(p) CLARIFICATION OF DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR STOCK REDEMPTION EXPENSES.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 162(k) is amended by striking ''the redemption of its stock'' and inserting ''the reacquisition of its stock or of the stock of any related person (as defined in section 465(b)(3)(C))''.

(2) CERTAIN DEDUCTIONS PERMITTED.—Subparagraph (A) of section 162(k)(2) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (i), by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii), and by inserting after clause (i) the following new clause:

''(ii) deduction for amounts which are properly allocable to indebtedness and amortized over the term of such indebtedness, or''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The subsection heading for subsection (k) of section 162 is amended by striking ''REDEMPTION'' and inserting ''REACQUISITION''.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the amendments made by this subsection shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after September 13, 1995, in taxable years ending after such date.

(B) PARAGRAPH (2).—The amendment made by paragraph (2) shall take effect as if included in the amendment made by section 613 of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

(q) CLERICAL AMENDMENT TO SECTION 404.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 404(j) is amended by striking ''(10)'' and inserting ''(9)''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 713(d)(4)(A) of the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984.

(r) PASSIVE INCOME NOT TO INCLUDE FSC INCOME, ETC.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 1296(b) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting '', or'', and by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

''(D) which is foreign trade income of a FSC or export trade income of an export trade corporation (as defined in section 971).''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1235 of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

(s) TECHNICAL CORRECTION OF INTERMEDIATE SANCTIONS PROVISIONS.—

(1) Subparagraph (C) of section 6652(c)(1) is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$20'', and by striking ''$5,000'' and inserting ''$10,000''.

(2) Subparagraph (D) of section 6652(c)(1) is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$20''.

(t) MISCELLANEOUS CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subclause (II) of section 56(g)(4)(C)(ii) is amended by striking ''of the subclause'' and inserting ''of subclause''.

(2) Paragraph (2) of section 72(m) is amended by inserting ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking subparagraph (B), and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(3) Paragraph (2) of section 86(b) is amended by striking ''adusted'' and inserting ''adjusted''.

*(4)(A) The heading for section 112 is amended by striking ''**COMBAT PAY**'' and inserting ''**COMBAT ZONE COMPENSATION**''.*

(B) The item relating to section 112 in the table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking ''combat pay'' and inserting ''combat zone compensation''.

(C) Paragraph (1) of section 3401(a) is amended by striking ''combat pay'' and inserting ''combat zone compensation''.

(5) Clause (i) of section 172(h)(3)(B) is amended by striking the comma at the end thereof and inserting a period.

(6) Clause (ii) of section 543(a)(2)(B) is amended by striking ''section 563(c)'' and inserting ''section 563(d)''.

(7) Paragraph (1) of section 958(a) is amended by striking ''sections 955(b)(1) (A) and (B), 955(c)(2)(A)(ii), and 960(a)(1)'' and inserting ''section 960(a)(1)''.

(8) Subsection (g) of section 642 is amended by striking ''under 2621(a)(2)'' and inserting ''under section 2621(a)(2)''.

(9) Section 1463 is amended by striking ''this subsection'' and inserting ''this section''.

(10) Subsection (k) of section 3306 is amended by inserting a period at the end thereof.

(11) The item relating to section 4472 in the table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 36 is amended by striking ''and special rules''.

(12) Paragraph (3) of section 5134(c) is amended by striking ''section 6662(a)'' and inserting ''section 6665(a)''.

(13) Paragraph (2) of section 5206(f) is amended by striking ''section 5(e)'' and inserting ''section 105(e)''.

(14) Paragraph (1) of section 6050B(c) is amended by striking ''section 85(c)'' and inserting ''section 85(b)''.

(15) Subsection (k) of section 6166 is amended by striking paragraph (6).

(16) Subsection (e) of section 6214 is amended to read as follows:

''(e) CROSS REFERENCE.—

''For provision giving Tax Court jurisdiction to order a refund of an overpayment and to award sanctions, see section 6512(b)(2).''.

(17) The section heading for section 6043 is amended by striking the semicolon and inserting a comma.

(18) The item relating to section 6043 in the table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by striking the semicolon and inserting a comma.

(19) The table of sections for part I of subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by striking the item relating to section 6662.

(20)(A) Section 7232 is amended—

*(i) by striking ''**LUBRICATING OIL**,'' in the heading, and*

(ii) by striking ''lubricating oil,'' in the text.

(B) The table of sections for part II of subchapter A of chapter 75 is amended by striking ''lubricating oil,'' in the item relating to section 7232.

(21) Paragraph (1) of section 6701(a) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 is amended by striking ''subclause (IV)'' and inserting ''subclause (V)''.

(22) Clause (ii) of section 7304(a)(2)(D) of such Act is amended by striking ''subsection (c)(2)'' and inserting ''subsection (c)''.

(23) Paragraph (1) of section 7646(b) of such Act is amended by striking ''section 6050H(b)(1)'' and inserting ''section 6050H(b)(2)''.

(24) Paragraph (10) of section 7721(c) of such Act is amended by striking ''section 6662(b)(2)(C)(ii)'' and inserting ''section 6661(b)(2)(C)(ii)''.

(25) Subparagraph (A) of section 7811(i)(3) of such Act is amended by inserting ''the first place it appears'' before ''in clause (i)''.

(26) Paragraph (10) of section 7841(d) of such Act is amended by striking ''section 381(a)'' and inserting ''section 381(c)''.

(27) Paragraph (2) of section 7861(c) of such Act is amended by inserting ''the second place it appears'' before ''and inserting''.

(28) Paragraph (1) of section 460(b) is amended by striking ''the look-back method of paragraph (3)'' and inserting ''the look-back method of paragraph (2)''.

(29) Subparagraph (C) of section 50(a)(2) is amended by striking ''subsection (c)(4)'' and inserting ''subsection (d)(5)''.

(30) Subparagraph (B) of section 172(h)(4) is amended by striking the material following the heading and preceding clause (i) and inserting ''For purposes of subsection (b)(2)—''.

(31) Subparagraph (A) of section 355(d)(7) is amended by inserting ''section'' before ''267(b)''.

(32) Subparagraph (C) of section 420(e)(1) is amended by striking ''mean'' and inserting ''means''.

(33) Paragraph (4) of section 537(b) is amended by striking ''section 172(i)'' and inserting ''section 172(f)''.

(34) Subparagraph (B) of section 613(e)(1) is amended by striking the comma at the end thereof and inserting a period.

(35) Paragraph (4) of section 856(a) is amended by striking ''section 582(c)(5)'' and inserting ''section 582(c)(2)''.

(36) Sections 904(f)(2)(B)(i) and 907(c)(4)(B)(iii) are each amended by inserting ''(as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990)'' after ''section 172(h)''.

(37) Subsection (b) of section 936 is amended by striking ''subparagraphs (D)(ii)(I)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (D)(ii)''.

(38) Subsection (c) of section 2104 is amended by striking ''subparagraph (A), (C), or (D) of section 861(a)(1)'' and inserting ''section 861(a)(1)(A)''.

(39) Subparagraph (A) of section 280A(c)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) as the principal place of business for any trade or business of the taxpayer,''.

(40) Section 6038 is amended by redesignating the subsection relating to cross references as subsection (f).

(41) Clause (iv) of section 6103(e)(1)(A) is amended by striking all that follows ''provisions of'' and inserting ''section 1(g) or 59(j);''.

(42) The subsection (f) of section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which was added by section 2201(d) of Public Law 101–624 is redesignated as subsection (g).

(43) Subsection (b) of section 7454 is amended by striking ''section 4955(e)(2)'' and inserting ''section 4955(f)(2)''.

(44) Subsection (d) of section 11231 of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''comma'' appeared instead of ''period'' and as if the paragraph (9) proposed to be added ended with a comma.

(45) Paragraph (1) of section 11303(b) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''paragraph'' appeared instead of ''subparagraph'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(46) Subsection (f) of section 11701 of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 is amended by inserting ''(relating to definitions)'' after ''section 6038(e)''.

(47) Subsection (i) of section 11701 of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''subsection'' appeared instead of ''section'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(48) Subparagraph (B) of section 11801(c)(2) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''section 56(g)'' appeared instead of ''section 59(g)''.

(49) Subparagraph (C) of section 11801(c)(8) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''reorganizations'' appeared instead of ''reorganization'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(50) Subparagraph (H) of section 11801(c)(9) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''section 1042(c)(1)(B)'' appeared instead of ''section 1042(c)(2)(B)''.

(51) Subparagraph (F) of section 11801(c)(12) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''and (3)'' appeared instead of ''and (E)''.

(52) Subparagraph (A) of section 11801(c)(22) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''chapters 21'' appeared instead of ''chapter 21'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(53) Paragraph (3) of section 11812(b) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied by not executing the amendment therein to the heading of section 42(d)(5)(B).

(54) Clause (i) of section 11813(b)(9)(A) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if a comma appeared after ''(3)(A)(ix)'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(55) Subparagraph (F) of section 11813(b)(13) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''tax'' appeared after ''investment'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(56) Paragraph (19) of section 11813(b) of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 shall be applied as if ''Paragraph (20) of section 1016(a), as redesignated by section 11801,'' appeared instead of ''Paragraph (21) of section 1016(a)''.

(57) Paragraph (5) section 8002(a) of the Surface Transportation Revenue Act of 1991 shall be applied as if ''4481(e)'' appeared instead of ''4481(c)''.

(58) Section 7872 is amended—

(A) by striking ''foregone'' each place it appears in subsections (a) and (e)(2) and inserting ''forgone'', and

(B) by striking ''FOREGONE'' in the heading for subsection (e) and the heading for paragraph (2) of subsection (e) and inserting ''FORGONE''.

(59) Paragraph (7) of section 7611(h) is amended by striking ''approporiate'' and inserting ''appropriate''.

(60) The heading of paragraph (3) of section 419A(c) is amended by striking ''SEVERENCE'' and inserting ''SEVERANCE''.

(61) Clause (ii) of section 807(d)(3)(B) is amended by striking ''Commissoners' '' and inserting ''Commissioners' ''.

(62) Subparagraph (B) of section 1274A(c)(1) is amended by striking ''instument'' and inserting ''instrument''.

(63) Subparagraph (B) of section 724(d)(3) by striking ''Subparagaph'' and inserting ''Subparagraph''.

(64) The last sentence of paragraph (2) of section 42(c) is amended by striking ''of 1988''.

(65) Paragraph (1) of section 9707(d) is amended by striking ''diligence,'' and inserting ''diligence''.

(66) Subsection (c) of section 4977 is amended by striking ''section 132(i)(2)'' and inserting ''section 132(h)''.

(67) The last sentence of section 401(a)(20) is amended by striking ''section 211'' and inserting ''section 521''.

(68) Subparagraph (A) of section 402(g)(3) is amended by striking ''subsection (a)(8)'' and inserting ''subsection (e)(3)''.

(69) The last sentence of section 403(b)(10) is amended by striking ''an direct'' and inserting ''a direct''.

(70) Subparagraph (A) of section 4973(b)(1) is amended by striking ''sections 402(c)'' and inserting ''section 402(c)''.

(71) Paragraph (12) of section 3405(e) is amended by striking ''(b)(3)'' and inserting ''(b)(2)''.

(72) Paragraph (41) of section 521(b) of the Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1992 shall be applied as if ''section'' appeared instead of ''sections'' in the material proposed to be stricken.

(73) Paragraph (27) of section 521(b) of the Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1992 shall be applied as if ''Section 691(c)(5)'' appeared instead of ''Section 691(c)''.

(74) Paragraph (5) of section 860F(a) is amended by striking ''paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)''.

(75) Paragraph (1) of section 415(k) is amended by adding ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (C), by striking subparagraphs (D) and (E), and by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (D).

(76) Paragraph (2) of section 404(a) is amended by striking ''(18),''.

(77) Clause (ii) of section 72(p)(4)(A) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii) SPECIAL RULE.—The term 'qualified employer plan' shall include any plan which was (or was determined to be) a qualified employer plan or a government plan.''.

(78) Sections 461(i)(3)(C) and 1274(b)(3)(B)(i) are each amended by striking ''section 6662(d)(2)(C)(ii)'' and inserting ''section 6662(d)(2)(C)(iii)''.

(79) Subsection (a) of section 164 is amended by striking the paragraphs relating to the generation-skipping tax and the environmental tax imposed by section 59A and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraphs:

''(4) The GST tax imposed on income distributions.

''(5) The environmental tax imposed by section 59A.''.

(80) Subclause (I) of section 936(a)(4)(A)(ii) is amended by striking ''deprecation'' and inserting ''depreciation''.

Subtitle H—Other Provisions

SEC. 1801. EXEMPTION FROM DIESEL FUEL DYEING REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4082 (relating to exemptions for diesel fuel) is amended by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) EXCEPTION TO DYEING REQUIREMENTS.—Paragraph (2) of subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to any diesel fuel—

''(1) removed, entered, or sold in a State for ultimate sale or use in an area of such State during the period such area is exempted from the fuel dyeing requirements under subsection (i) of section 211 of the Clean Air Act (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this subsection) by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under paragraph (4) of such subsection (i) (as so in effect), and

''(2) the use of which is certified pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary.''

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to fuel removed, entered, or sold on or after the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1802. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (s) of section 3121 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to concurrent employment by 2 or more employers)—

(1) the following entities shall be deemed to be related corporations that concurrently employ the same individual:

(A) a State university which employs health professionals as faculty members at a medical school, and

(B) an agency account of a State university which is described in subparagraph (A) and from which there is distributed to such faculty members payments forming a part of the compensation that the State, or such State university, as the case may be, agrees to pay to such faculty members, but only if—

(i) such agency account is authorized by State law and receives the funds for such payments from a faculty practice plan described in section 501(c)(3) of such Code and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code,

(ii) such payments are distributed by such agency account to such faculty members who render patient care at such medical school, and

(iii) such faculty members comprise at least 30 percent of the membership of such faculty practice plan, and

(2) remuneration which is disbursed by such agency account to any such faculty member of the medical school described in paragraph (1)(A) shall be deemed to have been actually disbursed by the State, or such State university, as the case may be, as a common paymaster and not to have been actually disbursed by such agency account.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The provisions of subsection (a) shall apply to remuneration paid after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1803. MODIFICATIONS TO EXCISE TAX ON OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS.

(a) RECYCLED HALON.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4682(d)(1) (relating to recycling) is amended by inserting '', or on any recycled halon imported from any country which is a signatory to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer'' before the period at the end.

(2) CERTIFICATION SYSTEM.—The Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall develop a certification system to ensure compliance with the recycling requirement for imported halon under section 4682(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by paragraph (1).

(b) CHEMICALS USED AS PROPELLANTS IN METERED-DOSE INHALERS TAX-EXEMPT.—Paragraph (4) of section 4682(g) (relating to phase-in of tax on certain substances) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) CHEMICALS USED AS PROPELLANTS IN METERED-DOSE INHALERS.—

''(A) TAX-EXEMPT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—No tax shall be imposed by section 4681 on—

''(I) any use of any substance as a propellant in metered-dose inhalers, or

''(II) any qualified sale by the manufacturer, producer, or importer of any substance.

''(ii) QUALIFIED SALE.—For purposes of clause (i), the term 'qualified sale' means any sale by the manufacturer, producer, or importer of any substance—

''(I) for use by the purchaser as a propellant in metered-dose inhalers, or

''(II) for resale by the purchaser to a 2d purchaser for such use by the 2d purchaser.

The preceding sentence shall apply only if the manufacturer, producer, and importer, and the 1st and 2d purchasers (if any) meet such registration requirements as may be prescribed by the Secretary.

''(B) OVERPAYMENTS.—If any substance on which tax was paid under this subchapter is used by any person as a propellant in metered-dose inhalers, credit or refund without interest shall be allowed to such person in an amount equal to the tax so paid. Amounts payable under the preceding sentence with respect to uses during the taxable year shall be treated as described in section 34(a) for such year unless claim thereof has been timely filed under this subparagraph.''

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) RECYCLED HALON.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the amendment made by subsection (a)(1) shall take effect on January 1, 1997.

(B) HALON-1211.—In the case of Halon-1211, the amendment made by subsection (a)(1) shall take effect on January 1, 1998.

(2) METERED-DOSE INHALERS.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on the 7th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1804. TAX-EXEMPT BONDS FOR SALE OF ALASKA POWER ADMINISTRATION FACILITY.

Sections 142(f)(3) (as added by section 1608) and 147(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall not apply in determining whether any private activity bond issued after the date of the enactment of this Act and used to finance the acquisition of the Snettisham hydroelectric project from the Alaska Power Administration is a qualified bond for purposes of such Code.

SEC. 1805. NONRECOGNITION TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN TRANSFERS BY COMMON TRUST FUNDS TO REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Section 584 (relating to common trust funds) is amended by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i) and by inserting after subsection (g) the following new subsection:

''(h) NONRECOGNITION TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN TRANSFERS TO REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If—

''(A) a common trust fund transfers substantially all of its assets to one or more regulated investment companies in exchange solely for stock in the company or companies to which such assets are so transferred, and

''(B) such stock is distributed by such common trust fund to participants in such common trust fund in exchange solely for their interests in such common trust fund,

no gain or loss shall be recognized by such common trust fund by reason of such transfer or distribution, and no gain or loss shall be recognized by any participant in such common trust fund by reason of such exchange.

''(2) BASIS RULES.—

''(A) REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANY.—The basis of any asset received by a regulated investment company in a transfer referred to in paragraph (1)(A) shall be the same as it would be in the hands of the common trust fund.

''(B) PARTICIPANTS.—The basis of the stock which is received in an exchange referred to in paragraph (1)(B) shall be the same as that of the property exchanged. If stock in more than one regulated investment company is received in such exchange, the basis determined under the preceding sentence shall be allocated among the stock in each such company on the basis of respective fair market values.

''(3) TREATMENT OF ASSUMPTIONS OF LIABILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining whether the transfer referred to in paragraph (1)(A) is in exchange solely for stock in one or more regulated investment companies, the assumption by any such company of a liability of the common trust fund, and the fact that any property transferred by the common trust fund is subject to a liability, shall be disregarded.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE WHERE ASSUMED LIABILITIES EXCEED BASIS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If, in any transfer referred to in paragraph (1)(A), the assumed liabilities exceed the aggregate adjusted bases (in the hands of the common trust fund) of the assets transferred to the regulated investment company or companies—

''(I) notwithstanding paragraph (1), gain shall be recognized to the common trust fund on such transfer in an amount equal to such excess,

''(II) the basis of the assets received by the regulated investment company or companies in such transfer shall be increased by the amount so recognized, and

''(III) any adjustment to the basis of a participant's interest in the common trust fund as a result of the gain so recognized shall be treated as occurring immediately before the exchange referred to in paragraph (1)(B).

If the transfer referred to in paragraph (1)(A) is to two or more regulated investment companies, the basis increase under subclause (II) shall be allocated among such companies on the basis of the respective fair market values of the assets received by each of such companies.

''(ii) ASSUMED LIABILITIES.—For purposes of clause (i), the term 'assumed liabilities' means the aggregate of—

''(I) any liability of the common trust fund assumed by any regulated investment company in connection with the transfer referred to in paragraph (1)(A), and

''(II) any liability to which property so transferred is subject.

''(4) COMMON TRUST FUND MUST MEET DIVERSIFICATION RULES.—This subsection shall not apply to any common trust fund which would not meet the requirements of section 368(a)(2)(F)(ii) if it were a corporation. For purposes of the preceding sentence, Government securities shall not be treated as securities of an issuer in applying the 25-percent and 50-percent test and such securities shall not be excluded for purposes of determining total assets under clause (iv) of section 368(a)(2)(F).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to transfers after December 31, 1995.

SEC. 1806. QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter F of chapter 1 (relating to exempt organizations) is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

''PART VIII—QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAMS

''Sec. 529. Qualified State tuition programs.

''SEC. 529. QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAMS.

''(a) GENERAL RULE.—A qualified State tuition program shall be exempt from taxation under this subtitle. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, such program shall be subject to the taxes imposed by section 511 (relating to imposition of tax on unrelated business income of charitable organizations).

''(b) QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAM.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified State tuition program' means a program established

and maintained by a State or agency or instrumentality thereof—

''(A) under which a person—

''(i) may purchase tuition credits or certificates on behalf of a designated beneficiary which entitle the beneficiary to the waiver or payment of qualified higher education expenses of the beneficiary, or

''(ii) may make contributions to an account which is established for the purpose of meeting the qualified higher education expenses of the designated beneficiary of the account, and

''(B) which meets the other requirements of this subsection.

''(2) CASH CONTRIBUTIONS.—A program shall not be treated as a qualified State tuition program unless it provides that purchases or contributions may only be made in cash.

''(3) REFUNDS.—A program shall not be treated as a qualified State tuition program unless it imposes a more than de minimis penalty on any refund of earnings from the account which are not—

''(A) used for qualified higher education expenses of the designated beneficiary,

''(B) made on account of the death or disability of the designated beneficiary, or

''(C) made on account of a scholarship (or allowance or payment described in section 135(d)(1) (B) or (C)) received by the designated beneficiary to the extent the amount of the refund does not exceed the amount of the scholarship, allowance, or payment.

''(4) SEPARATE ACCOUNTING.—A program shall not be treated as a qualified State tuition program unless it provides separate accounting for each designated beneficiary.

''(5) NO INVESTMENT DIRECTION.—A program shall not be treated as a qualified State tuition program unless it provides that any contributor to, or designated beneficiary under, such program may not direct the investment of any contributions to the program (or any earnings thereon).

''(6) NO PLEDGING OF INTEREST AS SECURITY.—A program shall not be treated as a qualified State tuition program if it allows any interest in the program or any portion thereof to be used as security for a loan.

''(7) PROHIBITION ON EXCESS CONTRIBUTIONS.—A program shall not be treated as a qualified State tuition program unless it provides adequate safeguards to prevent contributions on behalf of a designated beneficiary in excess of those necessary to provide for the qualified higher education expenses of the beneficiary.

''(c) TAX TREATMENT OF DESIGNATED BENEFICIARIES AND CONTRIBUTORS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, no amount shall be includible in gross income of—

''(A) a designated beneficiary under a qualified State tuition program, or

''(B) a contributor to such program on behalf of a designated beneficiary,

with respect to any distribution or earnings under such program.

''(2) CONTRIBUTIONS.—In no event shall a contribution to a qualified State tuition program on behalf of a designated beneficiary be treated as a taxable gift for purposes of chapter 12.

''(3) DISTRIBUTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any distribution under a qualified State tuition program shall be includible in the gross income of the distributee in the manner as provided under section 72 to the extent not excluded from gross income under any other provision of this chapter.

''(B) IN-KIND DISTRIBUTIONS.—Any benefit furnished to a designated beneficiary under a qualified State tuition program shall be treated as a distribution to the beneficiary.

''(C) CHANGE IN BENEFICIARIES.—

''(i) ROLLOVERS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to that portion of any distribution which, within 60 days of such distribution, is transferred to the credit of another designated beneficiary under a qualified State tuition program who is a member of the family of the designated beneficiary with respect to which the distribution was made.

''(ii) CHANGE IN DESIGNATED BENEFICIARIES.—Any change in the designated beneficiary of an interest in a qualified State tuition program shall not be treated as a distribution for purposes of subparagraph (A) if the new beneficiary is a member of the family of the old beneficiary.

''(D) OPERATING RULES.—For purposes of applying section 72—

''(i) to the extent provided by the Secretary, all qualified State tuition programs of which an individual is a designated beneficiary shall be treated as one program,

''(ii) all distributions during a taxable year shall be treated as one distribution, and

''(iii) the value of the contract, income on the contract, and investment in the contract shall be computed as of the close of the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

''(4) ESTATE TAX INCLUSION.—The value of any interest in any qualified State tuition program which is attributable to contributions made by an individual to such program on behalf of any designated beneficiary shall be includible in the gross estate of the contributor for purposes of chapter 11.

''(5) SPECIAL RULE FOR APPLYING SECTION 2503(e).—For purposes of section 2503(e), the waiver (or payment to an educational institution) of qualified higher education expenses of a designated beneficiary under a qualified State tuition program shall be treated as a qualified transfer.

''(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If there is a distribution to any individual with respect to an interest in a qualified State tuition program during any calendar year, each officer or employee having control of the qualified State tuition program or their designee shall make such reports as the Secretary may require regarding such distribution to the Secretary and to the designated beneficiary or the individual to whom the distribution was made. Any such report shall include such information as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(2) TIMING OF REPORTS.—Any report required by this subsection—

''(A) shall be filed at such time and in such matter as the Secretary prescribes, and

''(B) shall be furnished to individuals not later than January 31 of the calendar year following the calendar year to which such report relates.

''(e) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY.—The term 'designated beneficiary' means—

''(A) the individual designated at the commencement of participation in the qualified State tuition program as the beneficiary of amounts paid (or to be paid) to the program,

''(B) in the case of a change in beneficiaries described in subsection (c)(2)(C), the individual who is the new beneficiary, and

''(C) in the case of an interest in a qualified State tuition program purchased by a State or local government or an organization described in section 501(c)(3) and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) as part of a scholarship program operated by such government or organization, the individual receiving such interest as a scholarship.

''(2) MEMBER OF FAMILY.—The term 'member of the family' has the same meaning given such term as section 2032A(e)(2).

''(3) QUALIFIED HIGHER EDUCATION EXPENSES.—The term 'qualified higher education expenses' means tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for the enrollment or attendance of a designated beneficiary at an eligible educational institution (as defined in section 135(c)(3)).

''(4) APPLICATION OF SECTION 514.—An interest in a qualified State tuition program shall not be treated as debt for purposes of section 514.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 135(d)(1) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting '', or'', and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D) a payment, waiver, or reimbursement of qualified higher education expenses under a qualified State tuition program (within the meaning of section 529(b)).''

(2) The table of parts for subchapter F of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Part VIII. Qualified State tuition programs."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITION RULE.—If—

(A) a State or agency or instrumentality thereof maintains, on the date of the enactment of this Act, a program under which persons may purchase tuition credits or certificates on behalf of, or make contributions for education expenses of, a designated beneficiary, and

(B) such program meets the requirements of a qualified State tuition program before the later of—

(i) the date which is 1 year after such date of enactment, or

(ii) the first day of the first calendar quarter after the close of the first regular session of the State legislature that begins after such date of enactment,

the amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions (and earnings allocable thereto) made before the date such program meets the requirements of such amendments without regard to whether any requirements of such amendments are met with respect to such contributions and earnings.

For purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii), if a State has a 2-year legislative session, each year of such session shall be deemed to be a separate regular session of the State legislature.

SEC. 1807. ADOPTION ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to nonrefundable personal credits) is amended by inserting after section 22 the following new section:

"SEC. 23. ADOPTION EXPENSES.

''(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter the amount of the qualified adoption expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer.

''(2) YEAR CREDIT ALLOWED.—The credit under paragraph (1) with respect to any expense shall be allowed—

''(A) for the taxable year following the taxable year during which such expense is paid or incurred, or

''(B) in the case of an expense which is paid or incurred during the taxable year in which the adoption becomes final, for such taxable year.

''(b) LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—The aggregate amount of qualified adoption expenses which may be taken into account under subsection (a) for all taxable years with respect to the adoption of a child by the taxpayer shall not exceed $5,000 ($6,000, in the case of a child with special needs).

''(2) INCOME LIMITATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount allowable as a credit under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall be reduced (but not below zero) by an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount so allowable (determined without regard to this paragraph but with regard to paragraph (1)) as—

''(i) the amount (if any) by which the taxpayer's adjusted gross income exceeds $75,000, bears to

''(ii) $40,000.

''(B) DETERMINATION OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), adjusted gross income shall be determined—

''(i) without regard to sections 911, 931, and 933, and

''(ii) after the application of sections 86, 135, 137, 219, and 469.

''(3) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) for any expense for which a deduction or credit is allowed under any other provision of this chapter.

''(B) GRANTS.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) for any expense to the extent that funds for such expense are received under any Federal, State, or local program.

''(c) CARRYFORWARDS OF UNUSED CREDIT.—If the credit allowable under subsection (a) for any taxable year exceeds the limitation imposed by section 26(a) for such taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under this subpart (other than this section), such excess shall be carried to the succeeding taxable year and added to the credit allowable under subsection (a) for such taxable year. No credit may be carried forward under this subsection to any taxable year following the fifth taxable year after the taxable year in which the credit arose. For purposes of the preceding sentence, credits shall be treated as used on a first-in first-out basis.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) QUALIFIED ADOPTION EXPENSES.—The term 'qualified adoption expenses' means reasonable and necessary adoption fees, court costs, attorney fees, and other expenses—

''(A) which are directly related to, and the principal purpose of which is for, the legal adoption of an eligible child by the taxpayer,

''(B) which are not incurred in violation of State or Federal law or in carrying out any surrogate parenting arrangement,

''(C) which are not expenses in connection with the adoption by an individual of a child who is the child of such individual's spouse, and

''(D) which are not reimbursed under an employer program or otherwise.

''(2) ELIGIBLE CHILD.—The term 'eligible child' means any individual—

''(A) who—

''(i) has not attained age 18, or

''(ii) is physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself, and

''(B) in the case of qualified adoption expenses paid or incurred after December 31, 2001, who is a child with special needs.

''(3) CHILD WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.—The term 'child with special needs' means any child if—

''(A) a State has determined that the child cannot or should not be returned to the home of his parents,

''(B) such State has determined that there exists with respect to the child a specific factor or condition (such as his ethnic background, age, or membership in a minority or sibling group, or the presence of factors such as medical conditions or physical, mental, or emotional handicaps) because of which it is reasonable to conclude that such child cannot be placed with adoptive parents without providing adoption assistance, and

''(C) such child is a citizen or resident of the United States (as defined in section 217(h)(3)).

''(e) SPECIAL RULES FOR FOREIGN ADOPTIONS.—In the case of an adoption of a child who is not a citizen or resident of the United States (as defined in section 217(h)(3))—

''(1) subsection (a) shall not apply to any qualified adoption expense with respect to such adoption unless such adoption becomes final, and

''(2) any such expense which is paid or incurred before the taxable year in which such adoption becomes final shall be taken into account under this section as if such expense were paid or incurred during such year.

''(f) FILING REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) MARRIED COUPLES MUST FILE JOINT RETURNS.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of section 21(e) shall apply for purposes of this section.

''(2) TAXPAYER MUST INCLUDE TIN.—

''(A) In general.—No credit shall be allowed under this section with respect to any eligible child unless the taxpayer includes (if known) the name, age, and TIN of such child on the return of tax for the taxable year.

''(B) OTHER METHODS.—The Secretary may, in lieu of the information referred to in subparagraph (A), require other information meeting the purposes of subparagraph (A), including identification of an agent assisting with the adoption.

''(g) BASIS ADJUSTMENTS.—For purposes of this subtitle, if a credit is allowed under this section for any expenditure with respect to any property, the increase in the basis of such property which would (but for this subsection) result from such expenditure shall be reduced by the amount of the credit so allowed.

''(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be appropriate to carry out this section and section 137, including regulations which treat unmarried individuals who pay or incur qualified adoption expenses with respect to the same child as 1 taxpayer for purposes of applying the dollar limitation in subsection (b)(1) of this section and in section 137(b)(1).''

(b) EXCLUSION OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED UNDER EMPLOYER'S ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 (relating to items specifically excluded from gross income) is amended by redesignating section 137 as section 138 and by inserting after section 136 the following new section:

''SEC. 137. ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Gross income of an employee does not include amounts paid or expenses incurred by the employer for qualified adoption expenses in connection with the adoption of a child by an employee if such amounts are furnished pursuant to an adoption assistance program.

''(b) LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—The aggregate amount excludable from gross income under subsection (a) for all taxable years with respect to the adoption of a child by the taxpayer shall not exceed $5,000 ($6,000, in the case of a child with special needs).

''(2) INCOME LIMITATION.—The amount excludable from gross income under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall be reduced (but not below zero) by an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount so excludable (determined without regard to this paragraph but with regard to paragraph (1)) as—

''(A) the amount (if any) by which the taxpayer's adjusted gross income exceeds $75,000, bears to

''(B) $40,000.

''(3) DETERMINATION OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—For purposes of paragraph (2), adjusted gross income shall be determined—

''(A) without regard to this section and sections 911, 931, and 933, and

''(B) after the application of sections 86, 135, 219, and 469.

''(c) ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—For purposes of this section, an adoption assistance program is a separate written plan of an employer for the exclusive benefit of such employer's employees—

''(1) under which the employer provides such employees with adoption assistance, and

''(2) which meets requirements similar to the requirements of paragraphs (2), (3), (5), and (6) of section 127(b).

An adoption reimbursement program operated under section 1052 of title 10, United States Code (relating to armed forces) or section 514 of title 14, United States Code (relating to members of the Coast Guard) shall be treated as an adoption assistance program for purposes of this section.

''(d) QUALIFIED ADOPTION EXPENSES.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified adoption expenses' has the meaning given such term by section 23(d) (determined without regard to reimbursements under this section).

''(e) CERTAIN RULES TO APPLY.—Rules similar to the rules of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 23 shall apply for purposes of this section.

''(f) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to amounts paid or expenses incurred after December 31, 2001.''

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subparagraph (C) of section 25(e)(1) is amended by inserting ''and section 23'' after ''this section''.

(2) Sections 86(b)(2)(A) and 135(c)(4)(A) are each amended by inserting ''137,'' before ''911''.

(3) Clause (i) of section 219(g)(3)(A) is amended by inserting '', 137,'' before ''and 911''.

(4) Clause (ii) of section 469(i)(3)(E) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii) the amounts excludable from gross income under sections 135 and 137,''.

(5) Subsection (a) of section 1016 is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (24), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (25) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(26) to the extent provided in sections 23(g) and 137(e).''

(6) The table of sections for subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 22 the following new item:

''Sec. 23. Adoption expenses.''

(7) The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 137 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 137. Adoption assistance programs.

''Sec. 138. Cross reference to other Acts.''

(d) STUDY AND REPORT.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall study the effect on adoptions of the tax credit and gross income exclusion established by the amendments made by this section and shall submit a report regarding the study to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives not later than January 1, 2000.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

SEC. 1808. REMOVAL OF BARRIERS TO INTERETHNIC ADOPTION.

(a) STATE PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Section 471(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C 671(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (16);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (17) and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(18) not later than January 1, 1997, provides that neither the State nor any other entity in the State that receives funds from the Federal Government and is involved in adoption or foster care placements may—

''(A) deny to any person the opportunity to become an adoptive or a foster parent, on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the person, or of the child, involved; or

''(B) delay or deny the placement of a child for adoption or into foster care, on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the adoptive or foster parent, or the child, involved.''.

(b) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 474 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 674) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d)(1) If, during any quarter of a fiscal year, a State's program operated under this part is found, as a result of a review conducted under section 1123A, or otherwise, to have violated section 471(a)(18) with respect to a person or to have failed to implement a corrective action plan within a period of time not to exceed 6 months with respect to such violation, then, notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section

and any regulations promulgated under section 1123A(b)(3), the Secretary shall reduce the amount otherwise payable to the State under this part, for that fiscal year quarter and for any subsequent quarter of such fiscal year, until the State program is found, as a result of a subsequent review under section 1123A, to have implemented a corrective action plan with respect to such violation, by—

''(A) 2 percent of such otherwise payable amount, in the case of the 1st such finding for the fiscal year with respect to the State;

''(B) 3 percent of such otherwise payable amount, in the case of the 2nd such finding for the fiscal year with respect to the State; or

''(C) 5 percent of such otherwise payable amount, in the case of the 3rd or subsequent such finding for the fiscal year with respect to the State.

In imposing the penalties described in this paragraph, the Secretary shall not reduce any fiscal year payment to a State by more than 5 percent.

''(2) Any other entity which is in a State that receives funds under this part and which violates section 471(a)(18) during a fiscal year quarter with respect to any person shall remit to the Secretary all funds that were paid by the State to the entity during the quarter from such funds.

''(3)(A) Any individual who is aggrieved by a violation of section 471(a)(18) by a State or other entity may bring an action seeking relief from the State or other entity in any United States district court.

''(B) An action under this paragraph may not be brought more than 2 years after the date the alleged violation occurred.

''(4) This subsection shall not be construed to affect the application of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.''.

(c) CIVIL RIGHTS.—

(1) PROHIBITED CONDUCT.—A person or government that is involved in adoption or foster care placements may not—

(A) deny to any individual the opportunity to become an adoptive or a foster parent, on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the individual, or of the child, involved; or

(B) delay or deny the placement of a child for adoption or into foster care, on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the adoptive or foster parent, or the child, involved.

(2) ENFORCEMENT.—Noncompliance with paragraph (1) is deemed a violation of title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

(3) NO EFFECT ON THE INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978.—This subsection shall not be construed to affect the application of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 553 of the Howard M. Metzenbaum Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 5115a) is repealed.

SEC. 1809. 6-MONTH DELAY OF ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER REQUIREMENT.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the increase in the applicable required percentages for fiscal year 1997 in clauses (i)(IV) and (ii)(IV) of section 6302(h)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall not take effect before July 1, 1997.

Subtitle I—Foreign Trust Tax Compliance

SEC. 1901. IMPROVED INFORMATION REPORTING ON FOREIGN TRUSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6048 (relating to returns as to certain foreign trusts) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 6048. INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FOREIGN TRUSTS.

''(a) NOTICE OF CERTAIN EVENTS.—

''(1) GENERAL RULE.—On or before the 90th day (or such later day as the Secretary may prescribe) after any reportable event, the responsible party shall provide written notice of such event to the Secretary in accordance with paragraph (2).

''(2) CONTENTS OF NOTICE.—The notice required by paragraph (1) shall contain such information as the Secretary may prescribe, including—

''(A) the amount of money or other property (if any) transferred to the trust in connection with the reportable event, and

''(B) the identity of the trust and of each trustee and beneficiary (or class of beneficiaries) of the trust.

''(3) REPORTABLE EVENT.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'reportable event' means—

''(i) the creation of any foreign trust by a United States person,

''(ii) the transfer of any money or property (directly or indirectly) to a foreign trust by a United States person, including a transfer by reason of death, and

''(iii) the death of a citizen or resident of the United States if—

''(I) the decedent was treated as the owner of any portion of a foreign trust under the rules of subpart E of part I of subchapter J of chapter 1, or

''(II) any portion of a foreign trust was included in the gross estate of the decedent.

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(i) FAIR MARKET VALUE SALES.—Subparagraph (A)(ii) shall not apply to any transfer of property to a trust in exchange for consideration of at least the fair market value of the transferred property. For purposes of the preceding sentence, consideration other than cash shall be taken into account at its fair market value and the rules of section 679(a)(3) shall apply.

''(ii) DEFERRED COMPENSATION AND CHARITABLE TRUSTS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to a trust which is—

''(I) described in section 402(b), 404(a)(4), or 404A, or

''(II) determined by the Secretary to be described in section 501(c)(3).

''(4) RESPONSIBLE PARTY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'responsible party' means—

''(A) the grantor in the case of the creation of an inter vivos trust,

''(B) the transferor in the case of a reportable event described in paragraph (3)(A)(ii) other than a transfer by reason of death, and

''(C) the executor of the decedent's estate in any other case.

''(b) UNITED STATES GRANTOR OF FOREIGN TRUST.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If, at any time during any taxable year of a United States person, such person is treated as the owner of any portion of a foreign trust under the rules of subpart E of part I of subchapter J of chapter 1, such person shall be responsible to ensure that—

''(A) such trust makes a return for such year which sets forth a full and complete accounting of all trust activities and operations for the year, the name of the United States agent for such trust, and such other information as the Secretary may prescribe, and

''(B) such trust furnishes such information as the Secretary may prescribe to each United States person (i) who is treated as the owner of any portion of such trust or (ii) who receives (directly or indirectly) any distribution from the trust.

''(2) TRUSTS NOT HAVING UNITED STATES AGENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If the rules of this paragraph apply to any foreign trust, the determination of amounts required to be taken into account with respect to such trust by a United States person under the rules of subpart E of part I of subchapter J of chapter 1 shall be determined by the Secretary.

''(B) UNITED STATES AGENT REQUIRED.—The rules of this paragraph shall apply to any foreign trust to which paragraph (1) applies unless such trust agrees (in such manner, subject to such conditions, and at such time as the Secretary shall prescribe) to authorize a United States person to act as such trust's limited agent solely for purposes of applying sections 7602, 7603, and 7604 with respect to—

''(i) any request by the Secretary to examine records or produce testimony related to the proper treatment of amounts required to be taken into account under the rules referred to in subparagraph (A), or

''(ii) any summons by the Secretary for such records or testimony.

The appearance of persons or production of records by reason of a United States person being such an agent shall not subject such persons or records to legal process for any purpose other than determining the correct treatment under this title of the amounts required to be taken into account under the rules referred to in subparagraph (A). A foreign trust which appoints an described in this subparagraph shall not be considered to have an office or a permanent establishment in the United States, or to be engaged in a trade or business in the United States, solely because of the activities of such agent pursuant to this subsection.

''(C) OTHER RULES TO APPLY.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (2) and (4) of section 6038A(e) shall apply for purposes of this paragraph.

''(c) REPORTING BY UNITED STATES BENEFICIARIES OF FOREIGN TRUSTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If any United States person receives (directly or indirectly) during any taxable year of such person any distribution from a foreign trust, such person shall make a return with respect to such trust for such year which includes—

''(A) the name of such trust,

''(B) the aggregate amount of the distributions so received from such trust during such taxable year, and

''(C) such other information as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(2) INCLUSION IN INCOME IF RECORDS NOT PROVIDED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If adequate records are not provided to the Secretary to determine the proper treatment of any distribution from a foreign trust, such distribution shall be treated as an accumulation distribution includible in the gross income of the distributee under chapter 1. To the extent provided in regulations, the preceding sentence shall not apply if the foreign trust elects to be subject to rules similar to the rules of subsection (b)(2)(B).

''(B) APPLICATION OF ACCUMULATION DISTRIBUTION RULES.—For purposes of applying section 668 in a case to which subparagraph (A) applies, the applicable number of years for purposes of section 668(a) shall be ½ of the number of years the trust has been in existence.

''(d) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) DETERMINATION OF WHETHER UNITED STATES PERSON MAKES TRANSFER OR RECEIVES DISTRIBUTION.—For purposes of this section, in determining whether a United States person makes a transfer to, or receives a distribution from, a foreign trust, the fact that a portion of such trust is treated as owned by another person under the rules of subpart E of part I of subchapter J of chapter 1 shall be disregarded.

''(2) DOMESTIC TRUSTS WITH FOREIGN ACTIVITIES.—To the extent provided in regulations, a trust which is a United States person shall be treated as a foreign trust for purposes of this section and section 6677 if such trust has substantial activities, or holds substantial property, outside the United States.

''(3) TIME AND MANNER OF FILING INFORMATION.—Any notice or return required under this section shall be made at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe.

''(4) MODIFICATION OF RETURN REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary is authorized to suspend or modify any requirement of this section if the Secretary determines that the United States has no significant tax interest in obtaining the required information.''.

(b) INCREASED PENALTIES.—Section 6677 (relating to failure to file information returns with

respect to certain foreign trusts) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 6677. FAILURE TO FILE INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FOREIGN TRUSTS.

''(a) CIVIL PENALTY.—In addition to any criminal penalty provided by law, if any notice or return required to be filed by section 6048—

''(1) is not filed on or before the time provided in such section, or

''(2) does not include all the information required pursuant to such section or includes incorrect information,

the person required to file such notice or return shall pay a penalty equal to 35 percent of the gross reportable amount. If any failure described in the preceding sentence continues for more than 90 days after the day on which the Secretary mails notice of such failure to the person required to pay such penalty, such person shall pay a penalty (in addition to the amount determined under the preceding sentence) of $10,000 for each 30-day period (or fraction thereof) during which such failure continues after the expiration of such 90-day period. In no event shall the penalty under this subsection with respect to any failure exceed the gross reportable amount.

''(b) SPECIAL RULES FOR RETURNS UNDER SECTION 6048(b).—In the case of a return required under section 6048(b)—

''(1) the United States person referred to in such section shall be liable for the penalty imposed by subsection (a), and

''(2) subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting '5 percent' for '35 percent'.

''(c) GROSS REPORTABLE AMOUNT.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term 'gross reportable amount' means—

''(1) the gross value of the property involved in the event (determined as of the date of the event) in the case of a failure relating to section 6048(a),

''(2) the gross value of the portion of the trust's assets at the close of the year treated as owned by the United States person in the case of a failure relating to section 6048(b)(1), and

''(3) the gross amount of the distributions in the case of a failure relating to section 6048(c).

''(d) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed by this section on any failure which is shown to be due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect. The fact that a foreign jurisdiction would impose a civil or criminal penalty on the taxpayer (or any other person) for disclosing the required information is not reasonable cause.

''(e) DEFICIENCY PROCEDURES NOT TO APPLY.—Subchapter B of chapter 63 (relating to deficiency procedures for income, estate, gift, and certain excise taxes) shall not apply in respect of the assessment or collection of any penalty imposed by subsection (a).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (S), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (T) and inserting '', or'', and by inserting after subparagraph (T) the following new subparagraph:

''(U) section 6048(b)(1)(B) (relating to foreign trust reporting requirements).''.

(2) The table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by striking the item relating to section 6048 and inserting the following new item:

''Sec. 6048. Information with respect to certain foreign trusts.''.

(3) The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by striking the item relating to section 6677 and inserting the following new item:

''Sec. 6677. Failure to file information with respect to certain foreign trusts.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) REPORTABLE EVENTS.—To the extent related to subsection (a) of section 6048 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by this section, the amendments made by this section shall apply to reportable events (as defined in such section 6048) occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) GRANTOR TRUST REPORTING.—To the extent related to subsection (b) of such section 6048, the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of United States persons beginning after December 31, 1995.

(3) REPORTING BY UNITED STATES BENEFICIARIES.—To the extent related to subsection (c) of such section 6048, the amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions received after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1902. COMPARABLE PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO FILE RETURN RELATING TO TRANSFERS TO FOREIGN ENTITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1494 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) PENALTY.—In the case of any failure to file a return required by the Secretary with respect to any transfer described in section 1491, the person required to file such return shall be liable for the penalties provided in section 6677 in the same manner as if such failure were a failure to file a notice under section 6048(a).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to transfers after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1903. MODIFICATIONS OF RULES RELATING TO FOREIGN TRUSTS HAVING ONE OR MORE UNITED STATES BENEFICIARIES.

(a) TREATMENT OF TRUST OBLIGATIONS, ETC.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 679(a) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) TRANSFERS AT FAIR MARKET VALUE.—To any transfer of property to a trust in exchange for consideration of at least the fair market value of the transferred property. For purposes of the preceding sentence, consideration other than cash shall be taken into account at its fair market value.''.

(2) Subsection (a) of section 679 (relating to foreign trusts having one or more United States beneficiaries) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT UNDER FAIR MARKET VALUE EXCEPTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining whether paragraph (2)(B) applies to any transfer by a person described in clause (ii) or (iii) of subparagraph (C), there shall not be taken into account—

''(i) except as provided in regulations, any obligation of a person described in subparagraph (C), and

''(ii) to the extent provided in regulations, any obligation which is guaranteed by a person described in subparagraph (C).

''(B) TREATMENT OF PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON OBLIGATION.—Principal payments by the trust on any obligation referred to in subparagraph (A) shall be taken into account on and after the date of the payment in determining the portion of the trust attributable to the property transferred.

''(C) PERSONS DESCRIBED.—The persons described in this subparagraph are—

''(i) the trust,

''(ii) any grantor or beneficiary of the trust, and

''(iii) any person who is related (within the meaning of section 643(i)(2)(B)) to any grantor or beneficiary of the trust.''.

(b) EXEMPTION OF TRANSFERS TO CHARITABLE TRUSTS.—Subsection (a) of section 679 is amended by striking ''section 404(a)(4) or 404A'' and inserting ''section 6048(a)(3)(B)(ii)''.

(c) OTHER MODIFICATIONS.—Subsection (a) of section 679 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(4) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO FOREIGN GRANTOR WHO LATER BECOMES A UNITED STATES PERSON.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a nonresident alien individual has a residency starting date within 5 years after directly or indirectly transferring property to a foreign trust, this section and section 6048 shall be applied as if such individual transferred to such trust on the residency starting date an amount equal to the portion of such trust attributable to the property transferred by such individual to such trust in such transfer.

''(B) TREATMENT OF UNDISTRIBUTED INCOME.—For purposes of this section, undistributed net income for periods before such individual's residency starting date shall be taken into account in determining the portion of the trust which is attributable to property transferred by such individual to such trust but shall not otherwise be taken into account.

''(C) RESIDENCY STARTING DATE.—For purposes of this paragraph, an individual's residency starting date is the residency starting date determined under section 7701(b)(2)(A).

''(5) OUTBOUND TRUST MIGRATIONS.—If—

''(A) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States transferred property to a trust which was not a foreign trust, and

''(B) such trust becomes a foreign trust while such individual is alive,

then this section and section 6048 shall be applied as if such individual transferred to such trust on the date such trust becomes a foreign trust an amount equal to the portion of such trust attributable to the property previously transferred by such individual to such trust. A rule similar to the rule of paragraph (4)(B) shall apply for purposes of this paragraph.''.

(d) MODIFICATIONS RELATING TO WHETHER TRUST HAS UNITED STATES BENEFICIARIES.—Subsection (c) of section 679 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) CERTAIN UNITED STATES BENEFICIARIES DISREGARDED.—A beneficiary shall not be treated as a United States person in applying this section with respect to any transfer of property to foreign trust if such beneficiary first became a United States person more than 5 years after the date of such transfer.''.

(e) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 679(c)(2) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) in the case of a foreign corporation, such corporation is a controlled foreign corporation (as defined in section 957(a)),''.

(f) REGULATIONS.—Section 679 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transfers of property after February 6, 1995.

SEC. 1904. FOREIGN PERSONS NOT TO BE TREATED AS OWNERS UNDER GRANTOR TRUST RULES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—

(1) Subsection (f) of section 672 (relating to special rule where grantor is foreign person) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) SUBPART NOT TO RESULT IN FOREIGN OWNERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subpart, this subpart shall apply only to the extent such application results in an amount (if any) being currently taken into account (directly or through 1 or more entities) under this chapter in computing the income of a citizen or resident of the United States or a domestic corporation.

''(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(A) CERTAIN REVOCABLE AND IRREVOCABLE TRUSTS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any portion of a trust if—

''(i) the power to revest absolutely in the grantor title to the trust property to which such portion is attributable is exercisable solely by the grantor without the approval or consent of any other person or with the consent of a related or subordinate party who is subservient to the grantor, or

''(ii) the only amounts distributable from such portion (whether income or corpus) during the lifetime of the grantor are amounts distributable to the grantor or the spouse of the grantor.

''(B) COMPENSATORY TRUSTS.—Except as provided in regulations, paragraph (1) shall not apply to any portion of a trust distributions from which are taxable as compensation for services rendered.

''(3) SPECIAL RULES.—Except as otherwise provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary—

''(A) a controlled foreign corporation (as defined in section 957) shall be treated as a domestic corporation for purposes of paragraph (1), and

''(B) paragraph (1) shall not apply for purposes of applying section 1296.

''(4) RECHARACTERIZATION OF PURPORTED GIFTS.—In the case of any transfer directly or indirectly from a partnership or foreign corporation which the transferee treats as a gift or bequest, the Secretary may recharacterize such transfer in such circumstances as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to prevent the avoidance of the purposes of this subsection.

''(5) SPECIAL RULE WHERE GRANTOR IS FOREIGN PERSON.—If—

''(A) but for this subsection, a foreign person would be treated as the owner of any portion of a trust, and

''(B) such trust has a beneficiary who is a United States person,

such beneficiary shall be treated as the grantor of such portion to the extent such beneficiary has made (directly or indirectly) transfers of property (other than in a sale for full and adequate consideration) to such foreign person. For purposes of the preceding sentence, any gift shall not be taken into account to the extent such gift would be excluded from taxable gifts under section 2503(b).

''(6) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subsection, including regulations providing that paragraph (1) shall not apply in appropriate cases.''.

(2) The last sentence of subsection (c) of section 672 is amended by inserting ''subsection (f) and'' before ''sections 674''.

(b) CREDIT FOR CERTAIN TAXES.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 665(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Under rules or regulations prescribed by the Secretary, in the case of any foreign trust of which the settlor or another person would be treated as owner of any portion of the trust under subpart E but for section 672(f), the term 'taxes imposed on the trust' includes the allocable amount of any income, war profits, and excess profits taxes imposed by any foreign country or possession of the United States on the settlor or such other person in respect of trust income.''.

(2) Paragraph (5) of section 901(b) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Under rules or regulations prescribed by the Secretary, in the case of any foreign trust of which the settlor or another person would be treated as owner of any portion of the trust under subpart E but for section 672(f), the allocable amount of any income, war profits, and excess profits taxes imposed by any foreign country or possession of the United States on the settlor or such other person in respect of trust income.''.

(c) DISTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN FOREIGN TRUSTS THROUGH NOMINEES.—

(1) Section 643 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(h) DISTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN FOREIGN TRUSTS THROUGH NOMINEES.—For purposes of this part, any amount paid to a United States person which is derived directly or indirectly from a foreign trust of which the payor is not the grantor shall be deemed in the year of payment to have been directly paid by the foreign trust to such United States person.''.

(2) Section 665 is amended by striking subsection (c).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN TRUSTS.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to any trust—

(A) which is treated as owned by the grantor under section 676 or 677 (other than subsection (a)(3) thereof) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and

(B) which is in existence on September 19, 1995.

The preceding sentence shall not apply to the portion of any such trust attributable to any transfer to such trust after September 19, 1995.

(e) TRANSITIONAL RULE.—If—

(1) by reason of the amendments made by this section, any person other than a United States person ceases to be treated as the owner of a portion of a domestic trust, and

(2) before January 1, 1997, such trust becomes a foreign trust, or the assets of such trust are transferred to a foreign trust,

no tax shall be imposed by section 1491 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 by reason of such trust becoming a foreign trust or the assets of such trust being transferred to a foreign trust.

SEC. 1905. INFORMATION REPORTING REGARDING FOREIGN GIFTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after section 6039E the following new section:

''SEC. 6039F. NOTICE OF LARGE GIFTS RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN PERSONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—If the value of the aggregate foreign gifts received by a United States person (other than an organization described in section 501(c) and exempt from tax under section 501(a)) during any taxable year exceeds $10,000, such United States person shall furnish (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe) such information as the Secretary may prescribe regarding each foreign gift received during such year.

''(b) FOREIGN GIFT.—For purposes of this section, the term 'foreign gift' means any amount received from a person other than a United States person which the recipient treats as a gift or bequest. Such term shall not include any qualified transfer (within the meaning of section 2503(e)(2)) or any distribution properly disclosed in a return under section 6048(c).

''(c) PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO FILE INFORMATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a United States person fails to furnish the information required by subsection (a) with respect to any foreign gift within the time prescribed therefor (including extensions)—

''(A) the tax consequences of the receipt of such gift shall be determined by the Secretary, and

''(B) such United States person shall pay (upon notice and demand by the Secretary and in the same manner as tax) an amount equal to 5 percent of the amount of such foreign gift for each month for which the failure continues (not to exceed 25 percent of such amount in the aggregate).

''(2) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any failure to report a foreign gift if the United States person shows that the failure is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect.

''(d) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1996, the $10,000 amount under subsection (a) shall be increased by an amount equal to the product of such amount and the cost-of-living adjustment for such taxable year under section 1(f)(3), except that subparagraph (B) thereof shall be applied by substituting '1995' for '1992'.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such subpart is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6039E the following new item:

''Sec. 6039F. Notice of large gifts received from foreign persons.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts received after the date of the enactment of this Act in taxable years ending after such date.

SEC. 1906. MODIFICATION OF RULES RELATING TO FOREIGN TRUSTS WHICH ARE NOT GRANTOR TRUSTS.

(a) MODIFICATION OF INTEREST CHARGE ON ACCUMULATION DISTRIBUTIONS.—Subsection (a) of section 668 (relating to interest charge on accumulation distributions from foreign trusts) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of the tax determined under section 667(a)—

''(1) INTEREST DETERMINED USING UNDERPAYMENT RATES.—The interest charge determined under this section with respect to any distribution is the amount of interest which would be determined on the partial tax computed under section 667(b) for the period described in paragraph (2) using the rates and the method under section 6621 applicable to underpayments of tax.

''(2) PERIOD.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the period described in this paragraph is the period which begins on the date which is the applicable number of years before the date of the distribution and which ends on the date of the distribution.

''(3) APPLICABLE NUMBER OF YEARS.—For purposes of paragraph (2)—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The applicable number of years with respect to a distribution is the number determined by dividing—

''(i) the sum of the products described in subparagraph (B) with respect to each undistributed income year, by

''(ii) the aggregate undistributed net income.

The quotient determined under the preceding sentence shall be rounded under procedures prescribed by the Secretary.

''(B) PRODUCT DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the product described in this subparagraph with respect to any undistributed income year is the product of—

''(i) the undistributed net income for such year, and

''(ii) the sum of the number of taxable years between such year and the taxable year of the distribution (counting in each case the undistributed income year but not counting the taxable year of the distribution).

''(4) UNDISTRIBUTED INCOME YEAR.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'undistributed income year' means any prior taxable year of the trust for which there is undistributed net income, other than a taxable year during all of which the beneficiary receiving the distribution was not a citizen or resident of the United States.

''(5) DETERMINATION OF UNDISTRIBUTED NET INCOME.—Notwithstanding section 666, for purposes of this subsection, an accumulation distribution from the trust shall be treated as reducing proportionately the undistributed net income for undistributed income years.

''(6) PERIODS BEFORE 1996.—Interest for the portion of the period described in paragraph (2) which occurs before January 1, 1996, shall be determined—

''(A) by using an interest rate of 6 percent, and

''(B) without compounding until January 1, 1996.''.

(b) ABUSIVE TRANSACTIONS.—Section 643(a) is amended by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:

''(7) ABUSIVE TRANSACTIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes

of this part, including regulations to prevent avoidance of such purposes.''.

(c) TREATMENT OF LOANS FROM TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 643 (relating to definitions applicable to subparts A, B, C, and D) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) LOANS FROM FOREIGN TRUSTS.—For purposes of subparts B, C, and D—

''(1) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided in regulations, if a foreign trust makes a loan of cash or marketable securities directly or indirectly to—

''(A) any grantor or beneficiary of such trust who is a United States person, or

''(B) any United States person not described in subparagraph (A) who is related to such grantor or beneficiary,

the amount of such loan shall be treated as a distribution by such trust to such grantor or beneficiary (as the case may be).

''(2) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) CASH.—The term 'cash' includes foreign currencies and cash equivalents.

''(B) RELATED PERSON.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A person is related to another person if the relationship between such persons would result in a disallowance of losses under section 267 or 707(b). In applying section 267 for purposes of the preceding sentence, section 267(c)(4) shall be applied as if the family of an individual includes the spouses of the members of the family.

''(ii) ALLOCATION.—If any person described in paragraph (1)(B) is related to more than one person, the grantor or beneficiary to whom the treatment under this subsection applies shall be determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

''(C) EXCLUSION OF TAX-EXEMPTS.—The term 'United States person' does not include any entity exempt from tax under this chapter.

''(D) TRUST NOT TREATED AS SIMPLE TRUST.—Any trust which is treated under this subsection as making a distribution shall be treated as not described in section 651.

''(3) SUBSEQUENT TRANSACTIONS REGARDING LOAN PRINCIPAL.—If any loan is taken into account under paragraph (1), any subsequent transaction between the trust and the original borrower regarding the principal of the loan (by way of complete or partial repayment, satisfaction, cancellation, discharge, or otherwise) shall be disregarded for purposes of this title.''.

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (8) of section 7872(f) is amended by inserting '', 643(i),'' before ''or 1274'' each place it appears.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) INTEREST CHARGE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to distributions after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) ABUSIVE TRANSACTIONS.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) LOANS FROM TRUSTS.—The amendment made by subsection (c) shall apply to loans of cash or marketable securities made after September 19, 1995.

SEC. 1907. RESIDENCE OF TRUSTS, ETC.

(a) TREATMENT AS UNITED STATES PERSON.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (30) of section 7701(a) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (C) and by striking subparagraph (D) and by inserting the following new subparagraphs:

''(D) any estate (other than a foreign estate, within the meaning of paragraph (31)), and

''(E) any trust if—

''(i) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust, and

''(ii) one or more United States fiduciaries have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (31) of section 7701(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(31) FOREIGN ESTATE OR TRUST.—

''(A) FOREIGN ESTATE.—The term 'foreign estate' means an estate the income of which, from sources without the United States which is not effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States, is not includible in gross income under subtitle A.

''(B) FOREIGN TRUST.—The term 'foreign trust' means any trust other than a trust described in subparagraph (E) of paragraph (30).''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply—

(A) to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996, or

(B) at the election of the trustee of a trust, to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Such an election, once made, shall be irrevocable.

(b) DOMESTIC TRUSTS WHICH BECOME FOREIGN TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1491 (relating to imposition of tax on transfers to avoid income tax) is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''If a trust which is not a foreign trust becomes a foreign trust, such trust shall be treated for purposes of this section as having transferred, immediately before becoming a foreign trust, all of its assets to a foreign trust.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle J—Generalized System of Preferences

SEC. 1951. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''GSP Renewal Act of 1996''.

SEC. 1952. GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 is amended to read as follows:

''TITLE V—GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

''SEC. 501. AUTHORITY TO EXTEND PREFERENCES.

''The President may provide duty-free treatment for any eligible article from any beneficiary developing country in accordance with the provisions of this title. In taking any such action, the President shall have due regard for—

''(1) the effect such action will have on furthering the economic development of developing countries through the expansion of their exports;

''(2) the extent to which other major developed countries are undertaking a comparable effort to assist developing countries by granting generalized preferences with respect to imports of products of such countries;

''(3) the anticipated impact of such action on United States producers of like or directly competitive products; and

''(4) the extent of the beneficiary developing country's competitiveness with respect to eligible articles.

''SEC. 502. DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

''(a) AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE COUNTRIES.—

''(1) BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.—The President is authorized to designate countries as beneficiary developing countries for purposes of this title.

''(2) LEAST-DEVELOPED BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.—The President is authorized to designate any beneficiary developing country as a least-developed beneficiary developing country for purposes of this title, based on the considerations in section 501 and subsection (c) of this section.

''(b) COUNTRIES INELIGIBLE FOR DESIGNATION.—

''(1) SPECIFIC COUNTRIES.—The following countries may not be designated as beneficiary developing countries for purposes of this title:

''(A) Australia.

''(B) Canada.

''(C) European Union member states.

''(D) Iceland.

''(E) Japan.

''(F) Monaco.

''(G) New Zealand.

''(H) Norway.

''(I) Switzerland.

''(2) OTHER BASES FOR INELIGIBILITY.—The President shall not designate any country a beneficiary developing country under this title if any of the following applies:

''(A) Such country is a Communist country, unless—

''(i) the products of such country receive nondiscriminatory treatment,

''(ii) such country is a WTO Member (as such term is defined in section 2(10) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act) (19 U.S.C. 3501(10)) and a member of the International Monetary Fund, and

''(iii) such country is not dominated or controlled by international communism.

''(B) Such country is a party to an arrangement of countries and participates in any action pursuant to such arrangement, the effect of which is—

''(i) to withhold supplies of vital commodity resources from international trade or to raise the price of such commodities to an unreasonable level, and

''(ii) to cause serious disruption of the world economy.

''(C) Such country affords preferential treatment to the products of a developed country, other than the United States, which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on United States commerce.

''(D)(i) Such country—

''(I) has nationalized, expropriated, or otherwise seized ownership or control of property, including patents, trademarks, or copyrights, owned by a United States citizen or by a corporation, partnership, or association which is 50 percent or more beneficially owned by United States citizens,

''(II) has taken steps to repudiate or nullify an existing contract or agreement with a United States citizen or a corporation, partnership, or association which is 50 percent or more beneficially owned by United States citizens, the effect of which is to nationalize, expropriate, or otherwise seize ownership or control of property, including patents, trademarks, or copyrights, so owned, or

''(III) has imposed or enforced taxes or other exactions, restrictive maintenance or operational conditions, or other measures with respect to property, including patents, trademarks, or copyrights, so owned, the effect of which is to nationalize, expropriate, or otherwise seize ownership or control of such property,

unless clause (ii) applies.

''(ii) This clause applies if the President determines that—

''(I) prompt, adequate, and effective compensation has been or is being made to the citizen, corporation, partnership, or association referred to in clause (i),

''(II) good faith negotiations to provide prompt, adequate, and effective compensation under the applicable provisions of international law are in progress, or the country described in clause (i) is otherwise taking steps to discharge its obligations under international law with respect to such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association, or

''(III) a dispute involving such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association over compensation for such a seizure has been submitted to arbitration under the provisions of the Convention for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, or in another mutually agreed upon forum,

and the President promptly furnishes a copy of such determination to the Senate and House of Representatives.

''(E) Such country fails to act in good faith in recognizing as binding or in enforcing arbitral awards in favor of United States citizens or a corporation, partnership, or association which is 50 percent or more beneficially owned by United States citizens, which have been made by arbitrators appointed for each case or by permanent arbitral bodies to which the parties involved have submitted their dispute.

''(F) Such country aids or abets, by granting sanctuary from prosecution to, any individual or group which has committed an act of international terrorism.

''(G) Such country has not taken or is not taking steps to afford internationally recognized worker rights to workers in the country (including any designated zone in that country).

Subparagraphs (D), (E), (F), and (G) shall not prevent the designation of any country as a beneficiary developing country under this title if the President determines that such designation will be in the national economic interest of the United States and reports such determination to the Congress with the reasons therefor.

''(c) FACTORS AFFECTING COUNTRY DESIGNATION.—In determining whether to designate any country as a beneficiary developing country under this title, the President shall take into account—

''(1) an expression by such country of its desire to be so designated;

''(2) the level of economic development of such country, including its per capita gross national product, the living standards of its inhabitants, and any other economic factors which the President deems appropriate;

''(3) whether or not other major developed countries are extending generalized preferential tariff treatment to such country;

''(4) the extent to which such country has assured the United States that it will provide equitable and reasonable access to the markets and basic commodity resources of such country and the extent to which such country has assured the United States that it will refrain from engaging in unreasonable export practices;

''(5) the extent to which such country is providing adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights;

''(6) the extent to which such country has taken action to—

''(A) reduce trade distorting investment practices and policies (including export performance requirements); and

''(B) reduce or eliminate barriers to trade in services; and

''(7) whether or not such country has taken or is taking steps to afford to workers in that country (including any designated zone in that country) internationally recognized worker rights.

''(d) WITHDRAWAL, SUSPENSION, OR LIMITATION OF COUNTRY DESIGNATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may withdraw, suspend, or limit the application of the duty-free treatment accorded under this title with respect to any country. In taking any action under this subsection, the President shall consider the factors set forth in section 501 and subsection (c) of this section.

''(2) CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES.—The President shall, after complying with the requirements of subsection (f)(2), withdraw or suspend the designation of any country as a beneficiary developing country if, after such designation, the President determines that as the result of changed circumstances such country would be barred from designation as a beneficiary developing country under subsection (b)(2). Such country shall cease to be a beneficiary developing country on the day on which the President issues an Executive order or Presidential proclamation revoking the designation of such country under this title.

''(3) ADVICE TO CONGRESS.—The President shall, as necessary, advise the Congress on the application of section 501 and subsection (c) of this section, and the actions the President has taken to withdraw, to suspend, or to limit the application of duty-free treatment with respect to any country which has failed to adequately take the actions described in subsection (c).

''(e) MANDATORY GRADUATION OF BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.—If the President determines that a beneficiary developing country has become a 'high income' country, as defined by the official statistics of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, then the President shall terminate the designation of such country as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of this title, effective on January 1 of the second year following the year in which such determination is made.

''(f) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—

''(1) NOTIFICATION OF DESIGNATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Before the President designates any country as a beneficiary developing country under this title, the President shall notify the Congress of the President's intention to make such designation, together with the considerations entering into such decision.

''(B) DESIGNATION AS LEAST-DEVELOPED BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRY.—At least 60 days before the President designates any country as a least-developed beneficiary developing country, the President shall notify the Congress of the President's intention to make such designation.

''(2) NOTIFICATION OF TERMINATION.—If the President has designated any country as a beneficiary developing country under this title, the President shall not terminate such designation unless, at least 60 days before such termination, the President has notified the Congress and has notified such country of the President's intention to terminate such designation, together with the considerations entering into such decision.

''SEC. 503. DESIGNATION OF ELIGIBLE ARTICLES.

''(a) ELIGIBLE ARTICLES.—

''(1) DESIGNATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the President is authorized to designate articles as eligible articles from all beneficiary developing countries for purposes of this title by Executive order or Presidential proclamation after receiving the advice of the International Trade Commission in accordance with subsection (e).

''(B) LEAST-DEVELOPED BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.—Except for articles described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (E) of subsection (b)(1) and articles described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (b), the President may, in carrying out section 502(d)(1) and subsection (c)(1) of this section, designate articles as eligible articles only for countries designated as least-developed beneficiary developing countries under section 502(a)(2) if, after receiving the advice of the International Trade Commission in accordance with subsection (e) of this section, the President determines that such articles are not import-sensitive in the context of imports from least-developed beneficiary developing countries.

''(C) THREE-YEAR RULE.—If, after receiving the advice of the International Trade Commission under subsection (e), an article has been formally considered for designation as an eligible article under this title and denied such designation, such article may not be reconsidered for such designation for a period of 3 years after such denial.

''(2) RULE OF ORIGIN.—

''(A) GENERAL RULE.—The duty-free treatment provided under this title shall apply to any eligible article which is the growth, product, or manufacture of a beneficiary developing country if—

''(i) that article is imported directly from a beneficiary developing country into the customs territory of the United States; and

''(ii) the sum of—

''(I) the cost or value of the materials produced in the beneficiary developing country or any two or more such countries that are members of the same association of countries and are treated as one country under section 507(2), plus

''(II) the direct costs of processing operations performed in such beneficiary developing country or such member countries,

is not less than 35 percent of the appraised value of such article at the time it is entered.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—An article shall not be treated as the growth, product, or manufacture of a beneficiary developing country by virtue of having merely undergone—

''(i) simple combining or packaging operations, or

''(ii) mere dilution with water or mere dilution with another substance that does not materially alter the characteristics of the article.

''(3) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury, after consulting with the United States Trade Representative, shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out paragraph (2), including, but not limited to, regulations providing that, in order to be eligible for duty-free treatment under this title, an article—

''(A) must be wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a beneficiary developing country, or

''(B) must be a new or different article of commerce which has been grown, produced, or manufactured in the beneficiary developing country.

''(b) ARTICLES THAT MAY NOT BE DESIGNATED AS ELIGIBLE ARTICLES.—

''(1) IMPORT SENSITIVE ARTICLES.—The President may not designate any article as an eligible article under subsection (a) if such article is within one of the following categories of import-sensitive articles:

''(A) Textile and apparel articles which were not eligible articles for purposes of this title on January 1, 1994, as this title was in effect on such date.

''(B) Watches, except those watches entered after June 30, 1989, that the President specifically determines, after public notice and comment, will not cause material injury to watch or watch band, strap, or bracelet manufacturing and assembly operations in the United States or the United States insular possessions.

''(C) Import-sensitive electronic articles.

''(D) Import-sensitive steel articles.

''(E) Footwear, handbags, luggage, flat goods, work gloves, and leather wearing apparel which were not eligible articles for purposes of this title on January 1, 1995, as this title was in effect on such date.

''(F) Import-sensitive semimanufactured and manufactured glass products.

''(G) Any other articles which the President determines to be import-sensitive in the context of the Generalized System of Preferences.

''(2) ARTICLES AGAINST WHICH OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN.—An article shall not be an eligible article for purposes of this title for any period during which such article is the subject of any action proclaimed pursuant to section 203 of this Act (19 U.S.C. 2253) or section 232 or 351 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1862, 1981).

''(3) AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—No quantity of an agricultural product subject to a tariff-rate quota that exceeds the in-quota quantity shall be eligible for duty-free treatment under this title.

''(c) WITHDRAWAL, SUSPENSION, OR LIMITATION OF DUTY-FREE TREATMENT; COMPETITIVE NEED LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may withdraw, suspend, or limit the application of the duty-free treatment accorded under this title with respect to any article, except that no rate of duty may be established with respect to any article pursuant to this subsection other than the rate which would apply but for this title. In taking any action under this subsection, the President shall consider the factors set forth in sections 501 and 502(c).

''(2) COMPETITIVE NEED LIMITATION.—

''(A) BASIS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF DUTY-FREE TREATMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii) and subject to subsection (d), whenever the President determines that a beneficiary developing country has exported (directly or indirectly) to the United States during any calendar year beginning after December 31, 1995—

''(I) a quantity of an eligible article having an appraised value in excess of the applicable amount for the calendar year, or

''(II) a quantity of an eligible article equal to or exceeding 50 percent of the appraised value of the total imports of that article into the United States during any calendar year,

the President shall, not later than July 1 of the next calendar year, terminate the duty-free treatment for that article from that beneficiary developing country.

''(ii) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—For purposes of applying clause (i), the applicable amount is—

''(I) for 1996, $75,000,000, and

''(II) for each calendar year thereafter, an amount equal to the applicable amount in effect for the preceding calendar year plus $5,000,000.

''(B) COUNTRY DEFINED.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'country' does not include an association of countries which is treated as one country under section 507(2), but does include a country which is a member of any such association.

''(C) REDESIGNATIONS.—A country which is no longer treated as a beneficiary developing country with respect to an eligible article by reason of subparagraph (A) may, subject to the considerations set forth in sections 501 and 502, be redesignated a beneficiary developing country with respect to such article if imports of such article from such country did not exceed the limitations in subparagraph (A) during the preceding calendar year.

''(D) LEAST-DEVELOPED BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any least-developed beneficiary developing country.

''(E) ARTICLES NOT PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES EXCLUDED.—Subparagraph (A)(i)(II) shall not apply with respect to any eligible article if a like or directly competitive article was not produced in the United States on January 1, 1995.

''(F) DE MINIMIS WAIVERS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The President may disregard subparagraph (A)(i)(II) with respect to any eligible article from any beneficiary developing country if the aggregate appraised value of the imports of such article into the United States during the preceding calendar year does not exceed the applicable amount for such preceding calendar year.

''(ii) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—For purposes of applying clause (i), the applicable amount is—

''(I) for calendar year 1996, $13,000,000, and

''(II) for each calendar year thereafter, an amount equal to the applicable amount in effect for the preceding calendar year plus $500,000.

''(d) WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE NEED LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive the application of subsection (c)(2) with respect to any eligible article of any beneficiary developing country if, before July 1 of the calendar year beginning after the calendar year for which a determination described in subsection (c)(2)(A) was made with respect to such eligible article, the President—

''(A) receives the advice of the International Trade Commission under section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930 on whether any industry in the United States is likely to be adversely affected by such waiver,

''(B) determines, based on the considerations described in sections 501 and 502(c) and the advice described in subparagraph (A), that such waiver is in the national economic interest of the United States, and

''(C) publishes the determination described in subparagraph (B) in the Federal Register.

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.—In making any determination under paragraph (1), the President shall give great weight to—

''(A) the extent to which the beneficiary developing country has assured the United States that such country will provide equitable and reasonable access to the markets and basic commodity resources of such country, and

''(B) the extent to which such country provides adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights.

''(3) OTHER BASES FOR WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of subsection (c)(2) if, before July 1 of the calendar year beginning after the calendar year for which a determination described in subsection (c)(2) was made with respect to a beneficiary developing country, the President determines that—

''(A) there has been a historical preferential trade relationship between the United States and such country,

''(B) there is a treaty or trade agreement in force covering economic relations between such country and the United States, and

''(C) such country does not discriminate against, or impose unjustifiable or unreasonable barriers to, United States commerce,

and the President publishes that determination in the Federal Register.

''(4) LIMITATIONS ON WAIVERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may not exercise the waiver authority under this subsection with respect to a quantity of an eligible article entered during any calendar year beginning after 1995, the aggregate appraised value of which equals or exceeds 30 percent of the aggregate appraised value of all articles that entered duty-free under this title during the preceding calendar year.

''(B) OTHER WAIVER LIMITS.—The President may not exercise the waiver authority provided under this subsection with respect to a quantity of an eligible article entered during any calendar year beginning after 1995, the aggregate appraised value of which exceeds 15 percent of the aggregate appraised value of all articles that have entered duty-free under this title during the preceding calendar year from those beneficiary developing countries which for the preceding calendar year—

''(i) had a per capita gross national product (calculated on the basis of the best available information, including that of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) of $5,000 or more; or

''(ii) had exported (either directly or indirectly) to the United States a quantity of articles that was duty-free under this title that had an aggregate appraised value of more than 10 percent of the aggregate appraised value of all articles that entered duty-free under this title during that year.

''(C) CALCULATION OF LIMITATIONS.—There shall be counted against the limitations imposed under subparagraphs (A) and (B) for any calendar year only that value of any eligible article of any country that—

''(i) entered duty-free under this title during such calendar year; and

''(ii) is in excess of the value of that article that would have been so entered during such calendar year if the limitations under subsection (c)(2)(A) applied.

''(5) EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF WAIVER.—Any waiver granted under this subsection shall remain in effect until the President determines that such waiver is no longer warranted due to changed circumstances.

''(e) INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION ADVICE.—Before designating articles as eligible articles under subsection (a)(1), the President shall publish and furnish the International Trade Commission with lists of articles which may be considered for designation as eligible articles for purposes of this title. The provisions of sections 131, 132, 133, and 134 shall be complied with as though action under section 501 and this section were action under section 123 to carry out a trade agreement entered into under section 123.

''(f) SPECIAL RULE CONCERNING PUERTO RICO.—No action under this title may affect any tariff duty imposed by the Legislature of Puerto Rico pursuant to section 319 of the Tariff Act of 1930 on coffee imported into Puerto Rico.

"SEC. 504. REVIEW AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.

The President shall submit an annual report to the Congress on the status of internationally recognized worker rights within each beneficiary developing country.

"SEC. 505. DATE OF TERMINATION.

''No duty-free treatment provided under this title shall remain in effect after May 31, 1997.

"SEC. 506. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS OF BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

''The appropriate agencies of the United States shall assist beneficiary developing countries to develop and implement measures designed to assure that the agricultural sectors of their economies are not directed to export markets to the detriment of the production of foodstuffs for their citizenry.

"SEC. 507. DEFINITIONS.

''For purposes of this title:

''(1) BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRY.—The term 'beneficiary developing country' means any country with respect to which there is in effect an Executive order or Presidential proclamation by the President designating such country as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of this title.

''(2) COUNTRY.—The term 'country' means any foreign country or territory, including any overseas dependent territory or possession of a foreign country, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. In the case of an association of countries which is a free trade area or customs union, or which is contributing to comprehensive regional economic integration among its members through appropriate means, including, but not limited to, the reduction of duties, the President may by Executive order or Presidential proclamation provide that all members of such association other than members which are barred from designation under section 502(b) shall be treated as one country for purposes of this title.

''(3) ENTERED.—The term 'entered' means entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, in the customs territory of the United States.

''(4) INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED WORKER RIGHTS.—The term 'internationally recognized worker rights' includes—

''(A) the right of association;

''(B) the right to organize and bargain collectively;

''(C) a prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor;

''(D) a minimum age for the employment of children; and

''(E) acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health.

''(5) LEAST-DEVELOPED BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRY.—The term 'least-developed beneficiary developing country' means a beneficiary developing country that is designated as a least-developed beneficiary developing country under section 502(a)(2).''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The items relating to title V in the table of contents of the Trade Act of 1974 are amended to read as follows:

''TITLE V—GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

''Sec. 501. Authority to extend preferences.
''Sec. 502. Designation of beneficiary developing countries.
''Sec. 503. Designation of eligible articles.
''Sec. 504. Review and reports to Congress.
''Sec. 505. Date of termination.

''Sec. 506. Agricultural exports of beneficiary developing countries.
''Sec. 507. Definitions.''.

SEC. 1953. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this subtitle apply to articles entered on or after October 1, 1996.

(b) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—

(1) GENERAL RULE.—Notwithstanding section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 or any other provision of law and subject to subsection (c)—

(A) any article that was entered—

(i) after July 31, 1995, and

(ii) before January 1, 1996, and

to which duty-free treatment under title V of the Trade Act of 1974 would have applied if the entry had been made on July 31, 1995, shall be liquidated or reliquidated as free of duty, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall refund any duty paid with respect to such entry, and

(B) any article that was entered—

(i) after December 31, 1995, and

(ii) before October 1, 1996, and

to which duty-free treatment under title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (as amended by this subtitle) would have applied if the entry had been made on or after October 1, 1996, shall be liquidated or reliquidated as free of duty, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall refund any duty paid with respect to such entry.

(2) LIMITATION ON REFUNDS.—No refund shall be made pursuant to this subsection before October 1, 1996.

(3) ENTRY.—As used in this subsection, the term ''entry'' includes a withdrawal from warehouse for consumption.

(c) REQUESTS.—Liquidation or reliquidation may be made under subsection (b) with respect to an entry only if a request therefor is filed with the Customs Service, within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, that contains sufficient information to enable the Customs Service—

(1) to locate the entry; or

(2) to reconstruct the entry if it cannot be located.

SEC. 1954. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) TRADE LAWS.—

(1) Section 1211(b) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (19 U.S.C. 3011(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''(19 U.S.C. 2463(a), 2464(c)(3))'' and inserting ''(as in effect on July 31, 1995)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(19 U.S.C. 2464(c)(1))'' and inserting the following: ''(as in effect on July 31, 1995)''.

(2) Section 203(c)(7) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3202(c)(7)) is amended by striking ''502(a)(4)'' and inserting ''507(4)''.

(3) Section 212(b)(7) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2702(b)(7)) is amended by striking ''502(a)(4)'' and inserting ''507(4)''.

(4) General note 3(a)(iv)(C) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended by striking ''sections 503(b) and 504(c)'' and inserting ''subsections (a), (c), and (d) of section 503''.

(5) Section 201(a)(2) of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 3331(a)(2)) is amended by striking ''502(a)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2462(a)(2))'' and inserting ''502(f)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974''.

(6) Section 131 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3551) is amended in subsections (a) and (b)(1) by striking ''502(a)(4)'' and inserting ''507(4)''.

(b) OTHER LAWS.—

(1) Section 871(f)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''within the meaning of section 502'' and inserting ''under title V''.

(2) Section 2202(8) of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4711(8)) is amended by striking ''502(a)(4)'' and inserting ''507(4)''.

(3) Section 231A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2191a(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking ''502(a)(4) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2462(a)(4))'' and inserting ''507(4) of the Trade Act of 1974'';

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking ''505(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2465(c))'' and inserting ''504 of the Trade Act of 1974''; and

(C) in paragraph (4) by striking ''502(a)(4)'' and inserting ''507(4)''.

(4) Section 1621(a)(1) of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262p–4p(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''502(a)(4)'' and inserting ''507(4)''.

(5) Section 103B of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1444–2) is amended in subsections (a)(5)(F)(v) and (n)(1)(C) by striking ''503(d) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2463(d))'' and inserting ''503(b)(3) of the Trade Act of 1974''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

TITLE II

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 2 and 3 and agree to the same.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 4 and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

On page 236, line 12 of the House engrossed bill, strike ''Act'' and insert ''This section and sections 2102 and 2103''; and on page 237, line 4 of the House engrossed bill, strike ''section 1'' and insert ''section 2102''; and the Senate agree to the same.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 5 and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

On page 237, line 18 of the House engrossed bill, strike ''June 30, 1996'' and insert ''September 30, 1996''; on line 19, strike ''July 1, 1996'' and insert ''October 1, 1996''; beginning in line 20 strike ''after the expiration of such year'' and insert ''beginning September 1, 1997''; and after line 21, insert the following:

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 206) is amended by striking subsection (c).

And the Senate agree to the same.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 6 and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

On page 239, line 1 of the House engrossed bill, strike ''next to''; in line 3 of such page strike ''to read as follows'' and insert ''by striking 'previous sentence' and inserting 'preceding 2 sentences' and by striking '(1)' and '(2)' and such section is amended by striking the next to last sentence and inserting the following''; and in line 15 of such page strike ''cash''; and the Senate agree to the same.

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of the House bill (except for title II) and the Senate amendment numbered 1, and modifications committed to conference:

BILL ARCHER,
PHIL CRANE,
BILL THOMAS,
SAM GIBBONS,
CHARLES B. RANGEL,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for consideration of secs. 1704(h)(1)(B) and 1704(l) of the House bill and secs. 1421(d), 1442(b), 1442(c), 1451, 1457, 1460(b), 1460(c), 1461, 1465, and 1704(h)(1)(B) of the Senate amendment numbered 1, and modifications committed to conference:

WILLIAM F. GOODLING,
CASS BALLENGER,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for consideration of title II of the House bill and the Senate amendments numbered 2–6, and modifications committed to conference:

WILLIAM F. GOODLING,
H.W. FAWELL,
FRANK RIGGS,
WILLIAM L. CLAY,
MAJOR R. OWENS,
MAURICE HINCHEY,
Managers on the Part of the House.

From the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM,
EDWARD M. KENNEDY,
JIM JEFFORDS,

From the Committee on Finance:

BILL ROTH,
JOHN H. CHAFEE,
CHUCK GRASSLEY,
ORIN G. HATCH,
AL SIMPSON,
LARRY PRESSLER,
DANIEL P. MOYNIHAN,
MAX BAUCUS,
DAVID PRYOR,
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3448) to provide tax relief for small businesses, to protect jobs, to create opportunities, to increase the take home pay of workers, to amend the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 relating to the payment of wages to employees who use employer owned vehicles, and to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage rate and to prevent job loss by providing flexibility to employers in complying with minimum wage and overtime requirements under that Act, submit the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report:

I. SMALL BUSINESS AND OTHER TAX PROVISIONS

A. SMALL BUSINESS PROVISIONS

1. INCREASE IN EXPENSING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

(Sec. 1111 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In lieu of depreciation, a taxpayer with a sufficiently small amount of annual investment may elect to deduct up to $17,500 of the cost of qualifying property placed in service for the taxable year (sec. 179).[1] In general, qualifying property is defined as depreciable tangible personal property that is purchased for use in the active conduct of a trade or business. The $17,500 amount is reduced (but not below zero) by the amount by which the cost of qualifying property placed in service during the taxable year exceeds $200,000. In addition, the amount eligible to be expensed for a taxable year may not exceed the taxable income of the taxpayer for the year that is derived from the active conduct of a trade or business (determined without regard to this provision). Any amount that is not allowed as a deduction because of the taxable income limitation may be carried forward to succeeding taxable years (subject to similar limitations).

House bill

The House bill increases the $17,500 amount allowed to be expensed under Code section

[1] The amount permitted to be expensed under Code section 179 is increased by up to an additional $20,000 for certain property placed in service by a business located in an empowerment zone (sec. 1397A).

179 to $25,000. The increase is phased in as follows:

Taxable year beginning in—	Maximum expensing
1996	$18,500
1997	19,000
1998	20,000
1999	21,000
2000	22,000
2001	23,000
2002	23,500
2003 and thereafter	25,000

Effective date.—The provision is effective for property placed in service in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, subject to the phase-in schedule set forth above.

Senate amendment[2]

The Senate amendment increases the $17,500 amount allowed to be expensed under Code section 179 to $25,000. The increase is phased in as follows:

Taxable year beginning in—	Maximum expensing
1997	$18,000
1998	18,500
1999	19,000
2000	20,000
2001	24,000
2002	24,000
2003 and thereafter	25,000

Effective date.—The provision is effective for property placed in service in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996, subject to the phase-in schedule set forth above.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

2. TAX CREDIT FOR SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES PAID WITH RESPECT TO EMPLOYEE CASH TIPS

(Sec. 1112 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Employee tip income is treated as employer-provided wages for purposes of the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (''FICA''). Employees are required to report to the employer the amount of tips received. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (''OBRA 1993'') provided a business tax credit with respect to certain employer FICA taxes paid with respect to tips treated as paid by the employer. The credit applies to tips received from customers in connection with the provision of food or beverages for consumption on the premises of an establishment with respect to which the tipping of employees is customary. OBRA 1993 provided that the FICA tip credit is effective for taxes paid after December 31, 1993. Temporary Treasury regulations provide that the tax credit is available only with respect to tips reported by the employee. The temporary regulations also provide that the credit is effective for FICA taxes paid by an employer after December 31, 1993, with respect to tips received for services performed after December 31, 1993.

House bill

The provision clarifies the credit with respect to employer FICA taxes paid on tips by providing that the credit is (1) available whether or not the employee reported the tips on which the employer FICA taxes were paid pursuant to section 6053(a), and (2) effective with respect to taxes paid after December 31, 1993, regardless of when the services with respect to which the tips are received were performed.

The provision also modifies the credit so that it applies with respect to tips received from customers in connection with the delivery or serving of food or beverages, regardless of whether the food or beverages are for consumption on the premises of the establishment.

Effective date.—The clarifications relating to the effective date and nonreported tips are effective as if included in OBRA 1993. The provision expanding the tip credit to the provision of food or beverages not for consumption on the premises of the establishment is effective with respect to FICA taxes paid on tips received with respect to services performed after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

3. HOME OFFICE DEDUCTION: TREATMENT OF STORAGE OF PRODUCT SAMPLES

(Sec. 1113 of the House bill.)

Present law

A taxpayer's business use of his or her home may give rise to a deduction for the business portion of expenses related to operating the home (e.g., a portion of rent or depreciation and repairs). Code section 280A(c)(1) provides, however, that business deductions generally are allowed only with respect to a portion of a home that is used exclusively and regularly in one of the following ways: (1) as the principal place of business for a trade or business; (2) as a place of business used to meet with patients, clients, or customers in the normal course of the taxpayer's trade or business; or (3) in connection with the taxpayer's trade or business, if the portion so used constitutes a separate structure not attached to the dwelling unit. In the case of an employee, the Code further requires that the business use of the home must be for the convenience of the employer (sec. 280A(c)(1)). These rules apply to houses, apartments, condominiums, mobile homes, boats, and other similar property used as the taxpayer's home (sec. 280A(f)(1)).

Section 280A(c)(2) contains a special rule that allows a home office deduction for business expenses related to a space within a home that is used on a regular (even if not exclusive) basis as a storage unit for the inventory of the taxpayer's trade or business of selling products at retail or wholesale, but only if the home is the sole fixed location of such trade or business.

Home office deductions may not be claimed if they create (or increase) a net loss from a business activity, although such deductions may be carried over to subsequent taxable years (sec. 280A(c)(5)).

House bill

The House bill clarifies that the special rule contained in present-law section 280A(c)(2) permits deductions for expenses related to a storage unit in a taxpayer's home regularly used for inventory or product samples (or both) of the taxpayer's trade or business of selling products at retail or wholesale, provided that the home is the sole fixed location of such trade or business.

Effective date—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

4. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN CHARITABLE RISK POOLS

(Sec. 1114 of the House bill.)

Present law

Organizations described in section 501(c)(3) (which are referred to as ''charities'') generally are exempt from Federal income tax and are eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions and to use the proceeds of tax-exempt financing. Section 501(c)(3) requires that an organization be organized and operated exclusively for a charitable or other specifically enumerated exempt purpose in order to qualify for tax-exempt status under that section.

Section 501(c)(3) requires that an organization that is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes is entitled to tax-exempt status under that section only if the organization satisfies the additional requirements that no part of its net earnings inures to the benefit of any private individual or shareholder (referred to as the ''private inurement test'') and only if the organization does not engage in political campaign activity on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office and does not engage in substantial lobbying activities.

Section 501(m) provides that an organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Code is exempt from tax only if no substantial part of its activities consists of providing commercial-type insurance. For purposes of this rule, commercial-type insurance does not include insurance provided at substantially below cost to a class of charitable recipients.

Present law does not specifically accord tax-exempt status to an organization that pools insurable risks of a group of tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c)(3).

House bill

Under the House bill, a qualified charitable risk pool is treated as organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes. The provision make inapplicable to a qualified charitable risk pool the present-law rule under section 501(m) that a charitable organization described in section 501(c)(3) is exempt from tax only if no substantial part of its activities consists of providing commercial-type insurance.

The House bill defines a qualified charitable risk pool as an organization organized and operated solely to pool insurable risks of its members (other than medical malpractice risks) and to provide information to its members with respect to loss control and risk management. Because a qualified charitable risk pool must be organized and operated solely to pool insurable risks of its members and to provide information to members with respect to loss control and risk management, no profit may be accorded to any member of the organization other than through providing members with insurance coverage below the cost of comparable commercial coverage and through providing members with loss control and risk management information. Only charitable tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c)(3) may be members of a qualified charitable risk pool.

The House bill further requires that a qualified risk pool is required to (1) be organized as a nonprofit organization under State law authorizing risk pooling for charitable organizations; (2) be exempt from State income tax; (3) obtain at least $1 million in startup capital from nonmember charitable organizations; (4) be controlled by a board of directors elected by its members; and (5) provide in its organizational documents that members must be tax-exempt charitable organizations at all times, and if a member loses that status it must immediately notify the organization, and that no insurance coverage applies to a member after the date of any final determination that the member no longer qualifies as a tax-exempt charitable organization.

To be entitled to tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3), a qualified charitable risk

[2] See discussion in Part VII (Tax Technical Corrections Provisions) below, regarding the Senate amendment clarification of the present-law provision that horses are qualified property for purposes of section 179.

pool described in the provision also must satisfy the other requirements of that section (i.e., the private inurement test and the prohibition of political campaign activities and substantial lobbying).

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after the date of enactment.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

5. TREATMENT OF DUES PAID TO AGRICULTURAL OR HORTICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

(Sec. 1115 of the House bill and sec. 1113 of the Senate amendments.)

Present law

Tax-exempt organizations generally are subject to the unrelated business income tax (''UBIT'') on income derived from a trade or business regularly carried on that is not substantially related to the performance of the organization's tax-exempt functions (secs. 511–514). Dues payments made to a membership organization generally are not subject to the UBIT. However, several courts have held that, with respect to postal labor organizations, dues payments were subject to the UBIT when received from individuals who were not postal workers, but who became ''associate'' members for the purpose of obtaining health insurance available to members of the organization. See *National League of Postmasters of the United States* v. *Commissioner,* No. 95–2646 (4th Cir. 1996), *American Postal Workers Union, AFL–CIO* v. *United States,* 925 F.2d 480 (D.C. Cir. 1991), *National Association of Postal Supervisors* v. *United States,* 944 F.2d 859 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

In Rev. Proc. 95–21 (issued March 23, 1995), the IRS set forth its position regarding when associate member dues payments received by an organization described in section 501(c)(5) will be treated as subject to the UBIT. The IRS stated that dues payments from associate members will not be treated as subject to UBIT unless, for the relevant period, ''the associate member category has been formed or availed of for the principal purpose of producing unrelated business income.'' Thus, under Rev. Proc. 95–21, the focus of the inquiry is upon the organization's purposes in forming the associate member category (and whether the purposes of that category of membership are substantially related to the organization's exempt purposes other than through the production of income) rather than upon the motive of the individuals who join as associate members.

House bill

Under the House bill, if an agricultural or horticultural organization described in section 501(c)(5) requires annual dues not exceeding $100 to be paid in order to be a member of such organization, then in no event will any portion of such dues be subject to the UBIT by reason of any benefits or privileges to which members of such organization are entitled. For taxable years beginning after 1995, the $100 amount will be indexed for inflation. The term ''dues'' is defined as ''any payment required to be made in order to be recognized by the organization as a member of the organization.'' Thus, if a person is recognized as a member of an organization by virtue of having paid annual dues for his or her membership, then any subsequent payments made by that person during the year to purchase another membership in the same organization (covering the same period) would not be within the scope of the provision.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1994.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill, except that the Senate amendment applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986. The Senate amendment also provides transitional relief to agricultural or horticultural organizations that had a reasonable basis for not treating membership dues received prior to January 1, 1987, as unrelated business income. In such cases, no portion of such dues will be treated as derived from an unrelated trade or business.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment. The conferees intend that, if a person makes a single payment that entitles the person to be recognized as a member of the organization for more than twelve months, then such payment may be prorated to determine whether annual dues exceed the $100 cap (as adjusted for inflation).

6. CLARIFY EMPLOYMENT TAX STATUS OF CERTAIN FISHERMEN

(Sec. 1116(a) of the House bill and sec. 1114 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, service as a crew member on a fishing vessel is generally excluded from the definition of employment for purposes of income tax withholding on wages and for purposes of the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) taxes if the operating crew of the boat normally consists of fewer than 10 individuals, the individual receives a share of the catch based on the total catch, and the individual does not receive cash remuneration other than proceeds from the sale of the individual's share of the catch. If a crew member receives any other cash, e.g., payment for services as an engineer, the exemption from FICA and FUTA taxes does not apply. Crew members to which the exemption applies are subject to self-employment taxes. Special reporting requirements apply to the operators of boats on which exempt crew members serve.

House bill

The operating crew of a boat is treated as normally made up of fewer than 10 individuals if the average size of the operating crew on trips made during the preceding 4 calendar quarters consisted of fewer than 10 individuals. In addition, the exemption applies if the crew member receives certain cash payments. The cash payments cannot exceed $100 per trip, is contingent on a minimum catch, and is paid solely for additional duties (e.g., as mate, engineer, or cook) for which additional cash remuneration is customary.

Effective date.—The provision applies to remuneration paid after December 31, 1996. In addition, the provision applies to remuneration paid after December 31, 1996. In addition, the provision applies to remuneration paid after December 31, 1984, and before January 1, 1997, unless the payor treated such remuneration when paid as subject to FICA taxes.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Effective date.—The provision applies to remuneration paid after December 31, 1994. In addition, the provision applies to remuneration paid after December 31, 1984, and before January 1, 1995, unless the payer treated such remuneration when paid as subject to FICA taxes.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

Effective date.—The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

7. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PURCHASERS OF FISH

(Sec. 1116(b) of the House bill.)

Present law

Under present law, a person engaged in a trade or business who make payments during the calendar year of $600 or more to a person for ''rent, salaries, wages, premiums, annuities, compensations, remunerations, emoluments, or other fixed or determinable gains, profits, or other income'' must file an information return with the Internal Revenue Service reporting the amount of such payments, as well as the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of the person to whom such payments were made (Code sec. 6041). A similar statement must also be furnished to the person to whom such payments were made. Treasury regulations provide that payments for ''merchandise'' are not required to be reported under this provision (Treas. reg. sec. 1.6041–3(d)). Consequently, information reporting is generally not required with respect to purchases of fish or other forms of aquatic life. Information reporting is required by a person engaged in a trade or business who, in the course of that trade or business, receives more than $10,000 in cash in one transaction (or several related transactions) (Code sec. 6050I).

House bill

The provision requires persons engaged in the trade or business of purchasing fish for resale who pay more than $600 in cash in a calendar year for fish or other forms of aquatic life from any seller engaged in the trade or business of catching fish to file information reports with the Secretary regarding such purchases. A copy of the report must be provided to the seller.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for purchases made after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for purchases made after December 31, 1997.

8. MODIFY RULES GOVERNING ISSUANCE OF TAX-EXEMPT BONDS FOR FIRST-TIME FARMERS

(Sec. 1115 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Interest on bonds issued by State and local governments to provide financing to private persons is taxable unless an exception is provided in the Internal Revenue Code. One such exception allows State and local governments to issue bonds to finance loans to first-time farmers for the acquisition of land (and limited amounts of related depreciable farm property) if the purchasers will be the principal user of the property and will materially participate in the farming operation in which the property is to be used.

A first-time farmer is defined as an individual who has at no time owned farm land in excess of 15 percent of the median size of the farm in the county in which such land is located, and the fair market value of the land has not at any time when held by the individual exceeded $125,000.

Under general rules governing issuance of tax-exempt bonds, working capital financing (including purchases from related parties) is precluded.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment makes two modifications to the rules governing issuance of tax-exempt bonds for first-time farmers. First, the definition of first-time farmer is

broadened to include an individual who has at no time owned farm land in excess of 30 percent of the median size farm in the county. Second, these bonds may be used to finance purchases between related parties provide that: (1) the price paid reflects the fair market value of the property and, (2) the seller has no financial interest in the farming operation conducted on the land after the bond-financed sale occurs.

Effective date.—For financing provided with bonds issued after the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment with a clarification relating to the circumstances in which a related seller is treated as having a continuing financial interest in bond-financed farmland. In general, the conferees intend that such a seller will not be treated as have a financial interest if the seller.

(a) has no more than a ten-percent interest in the capital or profits in a partnership comprising the farm;

(b) has no more than a ten-percent stock interest in a corporation comprising the farm;

(c) has no more ten-percent of the beneficial interest in a trust comprising the farm;

(d) is not a principal user of the farm; or

(e) has no other direct or indirect ownership or use of the farm which has as a principal purposes, the avoidance of this provision.

The conferees further intend that issuers making loans to finance related party sales provide appropriate notice to borrowers of these restrictions and of the fact that bond-proceeds may not be re-transferred from sellers to purchasers as part of efforts (e.g., step-transactions) to transfer both property financed with the bond proceeds and the bond proceeds received by the seller.

9. CLARIFY TREATMENT OF NEWSPAPER DISTRIBUTORS AND CARRIERS AS DIRECT SELLERS

(Sec. 1116 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

For Federal tax purposes, there are two classifications of workers: a worker is either an employee of the service recipient or an independent contractor. Significant tax consequences result from the classification of a worker as an employee or independent contractor. These differences relate to withhold an employment tax requirements, as well as the ability to exclude certain types of compensation from income or take tax deductions for certain expenses. Some of these consequences favor employee status, while others favor independent contractor status. For example, an employee may exclude from gross income employer-provided benefits such as pension, health, and group-term life insurance benefits. On the other hand, an independent contractor can establish his or her own pension plan and deduct contributions to the plan. An independent contractor also has greater ability to deduct work-related expenses.

Under present law, the determination of whether a worker is an employee or an independent contractor is generally made under a common-law facts and circumstances test that seeks to determine whether the service provider is subject to the control of the service recipient, not only as to the nature of the work performed, but the circumstances under which it is performed. Under a special safe harbor rule (sec. 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978), a service recipient may treat a worker as an independent contractor for employment tax purposes even though the worker is an employee under the common-law test if the service recipient has a reasonable basis for treating the worker as an independent contractor and certain other requirements are met.

In addition to the common-law test, there are also some persons who are treated by statute as either employees or independent contractors. For example, ''direct sellers'' are deemed to be independent contractors. A direct seller is a person engaged in the trade or business of selling consumer products in the home or otherwise than in a permanent retail establishment, if substantially all the remuneration for the performance of the services is directly related to sales or other output rather than to the number of hours worked, and the services performed by the person are performed pursuant to a written contract between such person and the service recipient and such contract provides that the person will not be treated as an employee for Federal tax purposes.

The newspaper industry has generally taken the position that newspaper distributors and carriers should be treated as direct sellers for income and employment tax purposes. The Internal Revenue Service has generally taken the position that the direct seller rules do not apply to newspaper distributors and carriers operating under an agency distribution system (i.e., where the publisher retains title to the newspapers).

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment clarifies the treatment of qualifying newspaper distributors and carriers as direct sellers. Under the Senate amendment, a person engaged in the trade or business of the delivery or distribution of newspapers or shopping news (including any services that are directly related to such trade or business such as solicitation of customers of collection of receipts) qualifies as a direct seller, provided substantially all the remuneration for the performance of the services is directly related to sales or other output rather than to the number of hours worked, and the services performed by the person are performed pursuant to a written contract between such person and the service recipient and such contract provides that the person will not be treated as an employee for Federal tax purposes. The Senate amendment is intended to apply to newspaper distributors and carriers whether or not they hire others to assist in the delivery of newspapers. The Senate amendment also applies to newspaper distributors and carriers operating under either a buy-sell distribution system (i.e., where the newspaper distributors or carriers purchase the newspapers from the publisher) or an agency distribution system. For example, newspaper distributors and carriers operating under an agency distribution system who are paid based on the number of papers delivered and have an appropriate written agreement qualify as direct sellers. The status of newspaper distributors and carriers who do not qualify as direct sellers under the Senate amendment continue to be determined under present-law rules. No inference is intended with respect to the employment status of newspaper distributors and carriers prior to the effective date of the Senate amendment. Further, the provision is intended to clarify the worker classification issue for income and employment taxes only. The provision is not intended to have any impact whatsoever on the interpretation or applicability of Federal, State, or local labor laws.

Effective date—The provision is effective with respect to services performed after December 31, 1995.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

10. APPLICATION OF INVOLUNTARY CONVERSION RULES TO PROPERTY DAMAGED AS A RESULT OF PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED DISASTERS

(Sec. 1117 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A taxpayer may elect not to recognize gain with respect to property that is involuntarily converted if the taxpayer acquires within an applicable period property similar or related in service or use. If the taxpayer does not replace the converted property with property similar or related in service or use, then gain generally is recognized.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Any tangible property acquired and held for productive use in a business is treated as similar or related in service or use to property that (1) was held for investment or for productive use in a business and (2) was involuntarily converted as a result of a Presidentially declared disaster.

Effective date.—The Senate amendment is effective for disasters for which a Presidential declaration is made after December 31, 1994, in taxable years ending after that date.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment, with the modification that the boundaries of the enterprise community for Oklahoma City designated by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on December 21, 1994, may be extended with respect to the census tracts located in the area damaged by the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995. The modification is effective on the date of enactment.

11. ESTABLISH 15-YEAR RECOVERY PERIOD FOR RETAIL MOTOR FUELS OUTLET STORES

(Sec. 1118 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, depreciation for property used in the retail gasoline trade is calculated under section 168 using a 15-year recovery period and the 150-percent declining balance method. Nonresidential real property is depreciated using a 39-year recovery period and the straight-line method. It is understood that taxpayers generally have taken the position that convenience stores and other buildings installed at retail motor fuels outlets have a 15-year recovery period. The IRS, in a position described in a recent Coordinated Issues Paper, generally limits the application of the 15-year recovery period to instances where the structure: (1) is 1,400 square feet or less or (2) meets a 50-percent test. The 50-percent test is met if: (1) 50 percent or more of the gross revenues that are generated from the building are derived from petroleum sales and (2) 50 percent or more of the floor space in the building is devoted to petroleum marketing sales.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides that 15-year property includes any section 1250 property (generally, depreciable real property) that is a retail motor fuels outlet (whether or not food or other convenience items are sold at the outlet). A retail motor fuels outlet does not include any facility related to petroleum or natural gas trunk pipelines or to any section 1250 property used only to an insubstantial extent in the retail marketing of petroleum or petroleum products.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for property placed in service on or after the date of enactment and to which the amendments made by section 201 of the Tax Reform

Act of 1986 apply (i.e., property subject to the modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System of sec. 168). The taxpayer may elect the application of the provision for property placed in service prior to the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

A taxpayer may elect the application of the provision for qualified property placed in service prior to the date of enactment. The conferees clarify that if a taxpayer has already treated qualified property that was placed in service before the date of enactment as 15-year property, the taxpayer will be deemed to have made the election with respect to such property.

12. TREATMENT OF LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

(Sec. 1119 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A taxpayer generally recovers the adjusted basis of property for purposes of determining gain or loss upon the disposition of the property. Upon the termination of a lease, the adjusted basis of leasehold improvements that were made, but are not retained, by a lessee are taken into account to compute gain or loss by the lessee. The proper treatment of the adjusted basis of improvements made by a lessor upon termination of a lease is less clear. It appears that it is the position of the Internal Revenue Service that leasehold improvements made by a lessor that constitute structural components of a building must be continued to be depreciated in the same manner as the underlying real property, even if such improvements are retired at the end of the lease term. Some lessors, on the other hand, may be taking the position that a leasehold improvement is a property separate and distinct from the underlying building and that an abandonment loss under section 165 is allowable at the end of the lease term for the adjusted basis of the property.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

A lessor of leased property that disposes of a leasehold improvement which was made by the lessor for the lessee of the property may take the adjusted basis of the improvement into account for purposes of determining gain or loss, if the improvement is irrevocably disposed of or abandoned by the lessee at the termination of the lease.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for leasehold improvements disposed of after June 12, 1996. No inference is intended as to the proper treatment of such dispositions before June 13, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment. The conferees wish to clarify that the provision does not apply to the extent section 280B of present law applies to the demolition of a structure, a portion of which may include leasehold improvements.

13. INCREASE DEDUCTIBILITY OF BUSINESS MEAL EXPENSES OF CERTAIN SEAFOOD PROCESSING FACILITIES

(Sec. 1120 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general, 50 percent of meal and entertainment expenses incurred in connection with a trade or business that are ordinary and necessary (and not lavish or extravagant) are deductive (sec. 274). Food or beverage expenses are fully deductible provided that they are (1) required by Federal law to be provided to crew members of a commercial vessel, (2) provided to crew members of similar commercial vessels not operated on the oceans, or (3) provided on certain oil or gas platforms or drilling rigs.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment adds remote seafood processing facilities located in the United States north of 53 degrees north latitude to the present-law of entities not subject to the 50 percent limitation on the deductibility of business meals. Consequently, these expenses are fully deductible. A seafood processing facility is remote when there are insufficient eating facilities in the vicinity of the employer's premises.[3]

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

14. PROVIDE A LOWER RATE OF TAX ON CERTAIN HARD CIDERS

(Sec. 1121 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Distilled spirits are taxed at a rate of $13.50 per proof gallon; beer is taxed at a rate of $18 per barrel (approximately 58 cents per gallon); and still wines of 14 percent alcohol or less are taxed at a rate of $1.07 per wine gallon. Higher rates of tax are applied to wines with great alcohol content and sparking wines.

Certain small wineries may claim a credit against the excise tax on wine of 90 cents per wine gallon on the first 100,000 gallons on wine produced annually. Certain small breweries pay a reduced tax of $7.00 per barrel (approximately 22.6 cents per gallon) on the first 60,000 barrels of beer produced annually.

Apple cider containing alcohol is classified and taxed as wine.

House Bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment adjusts the tax rate on apple cider having an alcohol content of no more than seven percent to 22.6 cents per gallon.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for apple cider removed after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment.

15. MODIFICATIONS TO SECTION 530 OF THE REVENUE ACT OF 1978

(Sec. 1122 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general

For Federal tax purposes, there are two classifications of workers: a worker is either an employee of the service recipient or an independent contractor. In general, the determination of whether an employer-employee relationship exists for Federal tax purposes is made under a common-law test. Treasury regulations provide that an employer-employee relationship generally exists if the person contracting for services has the right to control not only the result of the services, but also the means by which that result is accomplished.[4]

Section 530

With increased enforcement of the employment tax laws beginning in the late 1960s, controversies developed between the IRS and taxpayers as to whether businesses had correctly classified certain workers as self employed rather than as employees. In response to this problem, the Congress enacted section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978 (''section 530''). That provision generally allows a taxpayer to treat a worker as not being an employee for employment tax purposes (but not income tax purposes), regardless of the individual's actual status under the common-law test, unless the taxpayer has no reasonable basis for such treatment.

It is the position of the IRS, based on legislative history, that section 530 can only apply after a determination has been made that a worker is an employee under the common-law test.[5] The IRS does not require the taxpayer to concede or agree to a determination that the worker is an employee.[6] However, several courts that have explicitly considered the question have held that section 530 relief is available irrespective of whether there has been an initial determination of worker classification under the common law.[7]

Under section 530, a reasonable basis for treating a worker as an independent contractor is considered to exist if the taxpayer (1) reasonably relied on published rulings or judicial precedent, (2) reasonably relied on past IRS audit practice with respect to the taxpayer, (3) reasonably relief on long-standing recognized practice of a significant segment of the (industry of which the taxpayer is a member, or (4) has any other reasonable basis for treating a worker as an independent contractor. The legislative history states that section 530 is to be ''construed liberally in favor of taxpayers.''[8]

Under section 530, reliance on judicial precedent, published rulings, technical advice with respect to the taxpayer, or a letter ruling to the taxpayer is deemed a reasonable basis for treating a worker as an independent contractor. If a taxpayer relies on this safe harbor, the IRS will look to see whether the facts of the judicial precedent or published ruling are sufficiently similar to the taxpayer's facts.[9]

Under the prior-audit safe harbor, reasonable reliance is generally found to exist if the IRS failed to raise an employment tax issue on audit, even though the audit was not related to employment tax matters. A taxpayer can also rely on a prior audit in which an employment tax issue was raised, but was resolved in favor of the taxpayer. According to the IRS, an ''audit'' must involve an examination of the taxpayer's books and records; mere inquiries from an IRS service center or a ''compliance check'' to determine whether a taxpayer has filed all returns will not suffice.[10] In order to rely on a prior audit, the IRS requires that the taxpayer must have treated the workers at issue

[3] See Treas. Reg. sec. 1.119–1(a)(2)(ii)(c) and 1.119–1(f)(Example 7).

[4] The Internal Revenue Service (''IRS'') has developed a list of 20 factors that may be examined in determining whether an employer-employee relationship exists. Rev. Rul. 87–41, 1987–1, C.B. 296.

[5] Employee or Independent Contractor?, at 3–4 (July 15, 1996)(hereinafter the ''IRS Training Guide'').

[6] IRS Training Guide, at 3–6; TAM 9443002 (December 3, 1993).

[7] See e.g., *Lambert's Nursery and Landscaping, Inc.* v. *U.S.*, 894 F.2d 154 (5th Cir. 1990) (''It is not necessary to determine whether [taxpayer's] workers were independent contractors or employees for employment tax purposes.'') *J & J Cab Service, Inc.* v. *U.S.*, 75 AFTR2d No. 95–618 (W.D. N.C. 1995) (''Section 530 relief may be granted irrespective of whether individuals were incorrectly treated as other than employees''); *Queensgate Dental Family Practice, Inc.* v. *U.S.*, 91–2 USTC No. 50,536 (M.D. Pa. 1991) (disagreeing with the IRS' contention that the court must first determine worker classification before applying section 530).

[8] H. Rept. No. 1748 (95th Cong., 2d Sess., 5 (1978)). The conference agreement to the Revenue Act of 1978 adopted the provisions of the House bill and therefore incorporates this legislative history.

[9] See e.g., TAM 9443002 (December 3, 1993); TAM 9330007 (April 28, 1993).

[10] IRS Training Guide, at 3–19.

as independent contractors during the period covered by the prior audit.[11]

A taxpayer is also treated as having a reasonable basis for treating a worker as an independent contractor under section 530 if the taxpayer reasonably relied on long-standing recognized practice of a significant segment of the industry in which the taxpayer is engaged.

Section 530 does not specify a period of time in order for a practice to be long standing. The IRS Training Guide provides that a practice is presumed to be long standing if it existed for 10 years or more.[12] the IRS Training Guide recognizes that a taxpayer may use the industry practice safe harbor even if it began business after 1978 or the industry came into existence after 1978.[13] However, the IRS Training Guide provides that if the industry practice changed by the time the taxpayer joined the industry, the taxpayer cannot rely on the former practice.

Neither section 530, nor the legislative history, provides a clear standard as to what constitutes a significant segment of a taxpayer's industry. The IRS Training Guide provides that the determination will be based on the facts and circumstances.[14] A few courts have addressed this issue. In one case, the IRS argued that a significant segment of the industry means more than 50 percent of the industry.[15] However, that court held that a significant segment is less than a majority of the firms in an industry. Another court held that 15 out of 84 industry respondents (18 percent) treating workers as independent contractors would constitute a significant segment of an industry.[16]

Even if a taxpayer is unable to rely on one of the three safe harbors described above, a taxpayer may still be entitled to relief under section 530 if the taxpayer has any other reasonable basis for treating a worker as an independent contractor.

The relief under section 530 is available with respect to an individual only if certain additional requirements are satisfied. The taxpayer must not have treated the individual as an employee for any period, and for periods since 1978 all Federal tax returns, including information returns, must have been filed on a basis consistent with treating such individual as an independent contractor. Further, the taxpayer (or a predecessor) must not have treated any individual holding a substantially similar position as an employee for purposes of employment taxes for any period beginning after 1977.

Whether workers are similarly situated is dependent on the facts and circumstances. The IRS Training Guide states that a ''substantially similar position exists if the job functions, duties, and responsibilities are substantially similar and the control and supervision of those duties and responsibilities is substantially similar.''[17]

There have been a few court decisions addressing this issue. For example, in *REAG, Inc.* v. *U.S.*,[18] the court held that the position of appraisers who were owner-officers of the business was not substantially similar to appraisers who were not owners since the owner-officers had managerial responsibilities. By contrast, in *Lowen Corp.* v. *U.S.*,[19] the court found that all workers engaged in the business of selling real estate signs had substantially similar positions even though some were salaried and had to file daily reports while others were paid by commission and did not have to file such reports.

The IRS Training Guide states that the burden of proof is on the taxpayer to demonstrate that it had a reasonable basis for treating a worker as an independent contractor.[20] However, in light of the Congressional instruction in the legislative history to construe section 530 liberally,[21] courts appear to be split as to how stringent a burden to apply.

In *McClellan* v. *U.S.*,[22] the court held that section 530 requires the ''taxpayer to come forward with an explanation and enough evidence to establish prima facie grounds for a finding of reasonableness. . . . [T]his threshold burden is relatively low, and can be met with any reasonableness showing. Once the taxpayer has made this prima facie showing, the burden then shifts to the IRS to verify or refute the taxpayer's explanation.'' By contrast, in *Boles Trucking, Inc.*, v. *U.S.*,[23] the court held that the burden is on the taxpayer to show, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that it had a reasonable basis for treating workers as independent contractors.

Under section 1706 of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, section 530 does not apply in the case of an individual who, pursuant to an arrangement between the taxpayer and another person, provides services for such other person as an engineer; designer, drafter, computer programmer, systems analyst, or other similarly skilled worker engaged in a similar line of work. Thus, the determination of whether such individuals are employees or self employed is made in accordance with the common-law test.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment makes several clarifications of and modifications to section 530.

First, under the Senate amendment, a worker does not have to otherwise be an employee of the taxpayer in order for section 530 to apply. The provision is intended to reverse the IRS position, as stated in the IRS Training Guide, that there first must be a determination that the worker is an employee under the common law standards before application of section 530.

The Senate amendment modifies the prior audit safe harbor so that taxpayers may not rely on an audit commencing after December 31, 1996, unless such audit included an examination for employment tax purposes of whether the worker involved (or any worker holding a position substantially similar to the position held by the worker involved) should be treated as an employee of the taxpayer. The provision does not affect the ability of taxpayers to rely on prior audits that commenced before January 1, 1997, even though the audit was not related to employment tax matters, as under present law.

Under the Senate amendment, section 530 does not apply with respect to a worker unless the taxpayer and the worker sign a statement (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe) which provides that the worker will not be treated as an employee for employment tax purposes. Also, the Senate amendment provides that an officer or employee of the IRS must, at (or before) the commencement of an audit involving worker classification issues, provide the taxpayer with written notice of the provisions of section 530.

The Senate amendment makes a number of changes to the industry practice safe harbor. First, the Senate amendment provides that a significant segment of the taxpayer's industry under the industry practice safe harbor does not require a reasonable showing of the practice of more than 25 percent of an industry (determined without taking into account the taxpayer). The provision is intended to be a safe harbor; a lower percentage may constitute a significant segment of the taxpayer's industry based on the particular facts and circumstances.

The Senate amendment also provides that an industry practice need not have continued for more than 10 years in order for the industry practice to be considered long standing. As with the significant segment safe harbor, this provision is intended to be a safe harbor; an industry practice in existence for a shorter period of time may be considered long standing based on the particular facts and circumstances. In addition, the Senate amendment clarifies that an industry practice will not fail to be treated as long standing merely because such practice began after 1978. Consequently, the provision clarifies that new industries can take advantage of section 530.

The Senate amendment modifies the burden of proof in section 530 cases by providing that if a taxpayer establishes a prima facie case that it was reasonable not to treat a worker as an employee for purposes of section 530,[24] the burden of proof shifts to the IRS with respect to such treatment.[25] In order for the shift in burden of proof to occur, the taxpayer must fully cooperate with reasonable requests by the IRS for information relevant to the taxpayer's treatment of the worker as an independent contractor under section 530. It is intended that a request by the IRS will not be treated as reasonable if complying with the request would be impracticable given the particular circumstances and the relative costs involved. The shift in the burden of proof does not apply for purposes of determining whether the taxpayer had any other reasonable basis for treating the worker as an independent contractor, but does apply to all other aspects of section 530. So, for example, provided the taxpayer establishes its prima facie case and fully cooperates with the IRS' reasonable requests, the burden of proof shifts to the IRS with respect to all other aspects of section 530, including whether the taxpayer had a reasonable basis for treating the worker as an independent contractor under the judicial or administrative precedent, prior audit, or long-standing industry practice safe harbors, whether the taxpayer filed all Federal tax returns on a basis consistent with treating the worker as an independent contractor, and whether the taxpayer treated any worker holding a substantially similar position as an employee. No inference is intended with respect to the application of the burden of proof in section 530

[11] IRS Training Guide, at 3–20.

[12] IRS Training Guide, at 3–24.

[13] IRS Training Guide, at 3–24.

[14] IRS Training Guide, at 3–25.

[15] In re Bentley, 73 AFTR2d No. 94–667 (Bkrtcy. E.D. Tenn. 1994).

[16] *REAG, Inc.* v. *U.S.*, 801 F.Supp. 494 (W.D. Okla. 1992).

[17] IRS Training Guide, at 3–11.

[18] 801 F.Supp. 494 (W.D. Okla. 1992).

[19] 785 F.Supp. 913 (D. Kan. 1992).

[20] IRS Training Guide, at 3–6.

[21] H. Rept. No. 1748 (95th Cong., 2d Sess., 5 (1978)). The conference agreement to the Revenue Act of 1978 adopted the provisions of the House bill and therefore incorporates this legislative history.

[22] 900 F.Supp. 101 (E.D. Mich. 1995). See also *REAG. Inc.* v. *U.S.*, 801 F.Supp. 494 (W.D. Okla. 1992) (a taxpayer need only show a substantial rational basis for its decision to treat the workers as independent contractors).

[23] 77 F.3d 236 (8th Cir. 1996) See also *Springfield* v. *U.S.*, 1996 U.S. App. LEXIS 15879 (9th Cir. 1996) (taxpayer has the burden to show it satisfies the requirements of section 530 by a preponderance of the evidence).

[24] For example, the taxpayer must establish a prima facie case that it reasonably satisfies the requirements of section 530 for not treating the worker as an employee, including the reporting consistency and consistency among workers with substantially similar positions requirements, and the requirement that the taxpayer have a reasonable basis for not treating the worker as an employee.

[25] The provision is generally intended to codify the holding in *McClellan* v. *U.S.*, discussed above, with respect to the burden of proof in section 530 cases.

cases prior to the effective date of this provision.

The Senate amendment also provides that if a taxpayer prospectively changes its treatment of workers from independent contractors to employees for employment tax purposes, such a change will not affect the applicability of section 530 with respect to such workers for prior periods.

Finally, the Senate amendment provides that, in determining whether a worker holds a substantially similar position to another worker, the relationship of the parties must be one of the factors taken into account.

Effective date.—The provisions generally apply to periods after December 31, 1996. The provision regarding the burden of proof applies to disputes with respect to periods after December 31, 1996. In the case of workers engaged to perform services for a taxpayer before January 1, 1997, the provision requiring a written statement that such workers are not employees for employment tax purposes is effective for periods after December 31, 1997 (unless the taxpayer elects to apply the provision earlier). The provision requiring the IRS to notify taxpayers of the provisions of section 530 applies to audits commencing after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment, with the following modifications:

The conference agreement deletes the written statement requirement in the Senate amendment.

The conferees wish to clarify the notice that the IRS must provide to taxpayers at (or before) the commencement of an audit inquiry involving worker classification issues. The conferees recognize that, in many cases, the portion of an audit involving worker classification issues will not arise until after the examination of the taxpayer begins. In that case, the notice need only be given at the time the worker classification issue is first raised with the taxpayer.

With respect to the burden of proof in section 530 cases, the conferees intend that a request for information by the IRS will not be treated as reasonable if (1) it does not relate to the particular basis on which the taxpayer relied for establishing its reasonable basis, or (2) complying with the request would be impracticable given the particular circumstances and the relative costs involved.

With respect to the substantially similar position provision, the conferees clarify that consideration of the relationship between a taxpayer and a worker includes consideration of the degree of supervision and control of the worker by the taxpayer.

16. EMPLOYEE HOUSING FOR CERTAIN MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

(Sec. 1123 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under Code section 119(d), employees of an educational institution described in Code section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) do not have to include in income the fair market value of campus housing as long as the rent is at least five percent of the appraised value of the housing. If the rent is less than the five-percent safe harbor, there is inclusion into income to the extent that the rent that was charged falls short of the lesser of five percent of the appraised value or the average of rents paid by individuals (other than employees or students of the educational institution) for similar lodging provided by the institution.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment treats as ''educational institutions'' for purposes of Code section 119(d) certain medical research institutions (''academic health centers'') that engage in basic and clinical research, have a regular faculty and teach a curriculum in basic and clinical research to students in attendance at the institution.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment, with a further modification that treats as ''educational institutions'' for purposes of Code section 119(d) certain entities (''university systems'') organized under State law composed of public institutions described in Code section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii). The conferees intend that, for purposes of the present-law requirement of Code section 119(d)(3)(A) that the employee housing be provided on (or in the proximity of) a campus of the employer, a campus of one of the component educational institutions of a university system should be considered to be a campus of the university system.

B. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXPIRING PROVISIONS

1. WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT

(Sec. 1201 of House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Prior to January 1, 1995, the targeted jobs tax credit was available on an elective basis for employers hiring individuals from one or more of nine targeted groups. The credit generally was equal to 40 percent of qualified first-year wages (up to $6,000) for maximum credit of $2,400.

House bill

General rules.—The House bill replaces the targeted jobs tax credit with the ''work opportunity tax credit''. The new credit is available on an elective basis for employers hiring individuals from one or more of seven targeted groups. The credit generally is equal to 35 percent of qualified first-year wages.

Minimum employment period.—Under the House bill, no credit is allowed for wages paid unless the eligible individual is employed by the employer for at least 180 days (20 days in the case of a qualified summer youth employee) or 500 hours (120 hours in the case of a qualified summer youth employee).

Certification of members of targeted groups.—In general, under the House bill, an individual is not treated as a member of a targeted group unless: (1) on or before the day the individual begins work for the employer, the employer, the employer received in writing a certification from the designated local agency that the individual is a member of a specific targeted group, or (2) on or before the day the individual is offered work with the employer, a pre-screening notice is completed with respect to that individual by the employer and within 14 days after the individual begins work for the employer, the employer submits such notice, signed by the employer and the individual under penalties of perjury, to the designated local agency as part of a written request for certification. The pre-screening notice will contain the information provided to the employer by the individual that forms the basis of the employer's belief that the individual is a member of a targeted group.

Effective date.—Wages paid or incurred to a qualified individual who begins work for an employer after June 30, 1996, and before July 1, 1997.

Senate amendment

General rules.—Same as the House bill with the addition of an eighth targeted group, individuals 18 to 24 who are in families that have been receiving food stamps for at least a three-month period ending on the date of hire.

Minimum employment period.—Under the Senate amendment, no credit is allowed for wages paid unless the eligible individual is employed by the employer for at least 180 days (20 in the case of a qualified summer youth employee) or 375 hours (120 hours in the case of a qualified summer youth employee).

Certification of members of targeted groups.—Same as House bill except that it replaces the 14-day rule with a 21-day rule for submission of pre-screening notice.

Effective date.—Wages paid or incurred to a qualified individual who begins work for an employer after September 30, 1996, and before October 1, 1997.

Conference agreement

General rules.—The conference agreement generally follows the Senate amendment with one modification to the food stamps category. Under the modification, members of the eighth targeted group are individuals aged 18–24 who are in families that have been receiving food stamps for at least a six-month (rather than a three-month) period ending on the date of hire. In the case of families that cease to be eligible for food stamps under section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, the six-month requirement is replaced with a requirement that the family has been receiving food stamps for at least three of the five months ending on the date of hire.

Minimum employment period.—Under the conference agreement, no credit is allowed for wages paid unless the eligible individual is employed by the employer for at least 180 days (20 in the case of a qualified summer youth employee) or 400 hours (120 hours in the case of a qualified summer youth employee).

Certification of members of targeted groups.—The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

Effective date.—The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

2. EMPLOYER-PROVIDED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

(Sec. 1202 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present and prior law

For taxable years beginning before January 1, 1995, an employee's gross income and wages did not include amounts paid or incurred by the employer for educational assistance provided to the employee if such amounts were paid or incurred pursuant to an educational assistance program that met certain requirements. This exclusion, which expired for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1994, was limited to $5,250 of educational assistance with respect to an individual during a calendar year. The exclusion applied whether or not the education was job related. In the absence of this exclusion, educational assistance is excludable from income only if it is related to the employee's current job.

The provision extends the exclusion for employer-provided educational assistance for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1994, and before January 1, 1997. After December 31, 1995, the exclusion would not apply with respect to graduate education.

To the extent employers have previously filed Forms W–2 reporting the amount of educational assistance provided as taxable wages, present Treasury regulations require the employer to file Forms W–2c (i.e., corrected Forms W–2) with the Internal Revenue Service.[26] It is intended that employers

also be required to provide copies of Form W–2c to affected employees.

The Secretary is directed to establish expedited procedures for the refund of any overpayment of taxes paid on excludable educational assistance provided in 1995 and 1996, including procedures for waiving the requirement that an employer obtain an employee's signature if the employer demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that any refund collected by the employer on behalf of the employee will be paid to the employee.

Because the exclusion is extended, no interest and penalties should be imposed if an employer failed to withhold income and employment taxes on excludable educational assistance or failed to report such educational assistance. Further, it is intended that the Secretary establish expedited procedures for refunding any interest and penalties relating to educational assistance previously paid.

Effective date.—The provision is effective with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1994, and before January 1, 1997.

Senate amendment

The provision is the same as the House bill, except that the exclusion is extended for an additional year, through December 31, 1997, and the Senate amendment does not preclude application of the exclusion to graduate courses.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1994, and before January 1, 1998.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill, with the following modifications. The exclusion expires with respect to courses beginning after May 31, 1997. The exclusion for graduate courses applies in 1995. In 1996, the exclusion for graduate courses does not apply to courses beginning after June 30, 1996.

3. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF FUTA EXEMPTION FOR ALIEN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

(Sec. 1203 of the House bill.)

Present law

Generally, the Federal unemployment tax (''FUTA'') is imposed on farm operators who (1) employ 10 or more agricultural workers for some portion of 20 different days, each beginning in a different calendar week or (2) have a quarterly payroll for agricultural services of at least $20,000. An exclusion from FUTA was provided, however, for labor performed by an alien admitted to the United States to perform agricultural labor under section 214(c) and 101(a)(15)(H) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. This exclusion was effective for labor performed before January 1, 1995.

House bill

The House bill permanently extends the FUTA exemption for alien agricultural workers.

Effective date.—Labor performed on or after January 1, 1995.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement includes the House bill provision.

4. RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL TAX CREDIT

(Sec. 1203 of the Senate amendment.)

Present and prior law

General rule

Prior to July 1, 1995, section 41 of the Internal Revenue Code provided for a research tax credit equal to 20 percent of the amount by which a taxpayer's qualified research expenditures for a taxable year exceeded its base amount for that year. The research tax credit expired and does not apply to amounts paid or incurred after June 30, 1995.

A 20-percent research tax credit also applied to the excess of (1) 100 percent of corporate cash expenditures (including grants or contributions) paid for basic research conducted by universities (and certain nonprofit scientific research organizations) over (2) the sum of (a) the greater of two minimum basic research floors plus (b) an amount reflecting any decrease in nonresearch giving to universities by the corporation as compared to such giving during a fixed-base period, as adjusted for inflation. This separate credit computation is commonly referred to as the ''university basic research credit'' (see sec. 41(e)).

Computation of allowable credit

Except for certain university basic research payments made by corporations, the research tax credit applies only to the extent that the taxpayers' qualified research expenditures for the current taxable year exceed its base amount. The base amount for the current year generally is computed by multiplying the taxpayer's ''fixed-base percentage'' by the average amount of the taxpayer's gross receipts for the four preceding years. If a taxpayer both incurred qualified research expenditures and had gross receipts during each of at least three years from 1984 through 1988, then its ''fixed-base percentage'' is the ratio that its total qualified research expenditures for the 1984–1988 period bears to its total gross receipts for that period (subject to a maximum ratio of .16). All other taxpayers (so-called ''start-up firms'') are assigned a fixed-base percentage of 3 percent.[27]

In computing the credit, a taxpayer's base amount may not be less than 50 percent of its current-year qualified research expenditures.

To prevent artificial increases in research expenditures among commonly controlled or otherwise related entities, research expenditures and gross receipts of the taxpayer are aggregated with research expenditures and gross receipts of certain related persons for purposes of computing any allowable credit (sec. 41(f)(l)). Special rules apply for computing the credit when a major portion of a business changes hands, under which qualified research expenditures and gross receipts for periods prior to the change or ownership of a trade or business are treated as transferred with the trade or business that gave rise to those expenditures and receipts for purposes of recomputing a taxpayer's fixed-base percentage (sec. 41(f)(3)).

Eligible expenditures

Qualified research expenditures eligible for the research tax credit consist of (1) ''in-house'' expenses of the taxpayer for wages and supplies attributable to qualified research; (2) certain time-sharing costs for computer use in qualified research; and (3) 65 percent of amounts paid by the taxpayer for qualified research conducted on the taxpayer's behalf (so-called ''contract research expenses'').

To be eligible for the credit, the research must not only satisfy the requirements of present-law section 174 but must be undertaken for the purpose of discovering information that is technological in nature, the application of which is intended to be useful in the development of a new or improved business component of the taxpayer, and must pertain to functional aspects, performance, reliability, or quality of a business component. Research does not qualify for the credit if substantially all of the activities relate to style, taste, cosmetic, or seasonal design factors (sec. 41(d)(3)). In addition, research does not qualify for the credit if conducted after the beginning of commercial production of the business component, if related to the adaptation of an existing business component to a particular customer's requirements, if related to the duplication of an existing business component from a physical examination of the component itself or certain other information, or if related to certain efficiency surveys, market research or development, or routine quality control (sec. 41(d)(4)).

Expenditures attributable to research that is conducted outside the United States do not enter into the credit computation. In addition, the credit is not available for research in the social sciences, arts, or humanities, nor is it available for research to the extent funded by any grant, contract, or otherwise by another person (or governmental entity).

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment extends the research tax credit for 18 months—i.e., for the period July 1, 1996, through December 31, 1997 (with a special rule for taxpayers who elect the alternative incremental research credit regime, as described below).

The Senate amendment also expand the definition of ''start-up firms'' under section 41(c)(3)(B)(I) to include any firm if the first taxable year in which such firm had both gross receipts and qualified research expenses began after 1983.[28]

In addition, the Senate amendment allow taxpayers to elect an alternative incremental research credit regime. If a taxpayer elects to be subject to this alternative regime, the taxpayer is assigned a three-tiered fixed-base percentage (that is lower than the fixed-base percentage otherwise applicable under present law) and the credit rate likewise is reduced. Under the alternative credit regime, a credit rate of 1.65 percent applies to the extent that a taxpayer's current-year research expenses exceed a base amount computed by using a fixed-base percentage of 1 percent (i.e., the base amount equals 1 percent of the taxpayer's average gross receipts for the four preceding years) but do not exceed a base amount computed by using a fixed-base percentage of 1.5 percent. A credit rate of 2.2 percent applies to the extent that a taxpayer's current-year research expenses exceed a base amount computed by using a fix-base percentage of 1.5 percent but do not exceed a base amount computed by using a fixed-base percentage of 2 percent. A credit rate of 2.75 percent applies to the extent that

[26] Treasury regulation section 31.6051–1(c).

[27] The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 included a special rule designed to gradually recompute a start-up firm's fixed-base percentage based on its actual research experience. Under this special rule, a start-up firm (i.e., any taxpayer that did not have gross receipts in at least three years during the 1984–1988 period) will be assigned a fixed-base percentage of 3 percent for each of its first five taxable years after 1993 in which it incurs qualified research expenditures. In the event that the research credit is extended beyond the scheduled June 30, 1995 expiration date, a start-up firm's fixed-base percentage for its sixth through tenth taxable years after 1993 in which it incurs qualified research expenditures will be a phased-in ratio based on its actual research experience. For all subsequent taxable years, the taxpayer's fixed-base percentage will be its actual ratio of qualified research expenditures to gross receipts for any five years selected by the taxpayer from its fifth through tenth taxable years after 1993 (sec. 41(c)(3)(B)).

[28] In applying the start-up firm rules, the test is whether a taxpayer, in fact, both incurred research expenses (which under the present-law rules would be qualified research expenses) and had gross receipts in a particular year, not whether the taxpayer claimed a research tax credit for that year.

a taxpayer's current-year research expenses exceed a base amount computed by using a fixed-base percentage of 2 percent. An election to be subject to this alternative incremental credit regime may be made only for a taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after June 30, 1996, and such an election applies to that taxable year and all subsequent years unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury. Under the amendment, if a taxpayer elects the alternative incremental credit regime for its first taxable year beginning after June 30, 1996, and before July 1, 1997, then all qualified research expenses paid or incurred during such taxable year and the first six months of the following taxable year are treated as qualified research expenses for purposes of computing the taxpayer's credit under the alternative incremental credit regime.

The Senate amendment also provide for a special rule for payments made to certain nonprofit research consortia. Under this special rule, 75 percent of amounts paid to a research consortium for qualified research is treated as qualified research expenses eligible for the research credit (rather than 65 percent under the present-law section 41(b)(3) rule governing contract research expenses) if (1) such research consortium is a tax-exempt organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) (other than a private foundation) or section 501(c)(6) and is organized and operated primarily to conduct scientific research, and (2) such qualified research is conducted by the consortium on behalf of the taxpayer and one or more persons not related to the taxpayer.

Effective date.—Under the Senate amendment, extension of the research tax credit is effective for expenditures paid or incurred during the period July 1, 1996, through December 31, 1997 (with a special rule for taxpayers who elect the alternative incremental research credit regime). The modification to the definition of ''start-up firms'' is effective for taxable years ending after June 30, 1996. Taxpayers may elect the alternative research credit regime (with lower fixed-base percentages and lower credit rates) for the first taxable year beginning after June 30, 1996, and before July 1, 1997, and the credit is available with respect to all qualified research expenses incurred during such taxable year and during the first six months of the following taxable year. The rule that treats 75 percent of qualified research consortium payments as qualified research expenses is effective for taxable years beginning after June 30, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement extends the research tax credit for 11 months—i.e., for the period July 1, 1996, through May 31, 1997 (with a special rule for taxpayers who elect the alternative incremental research credit regime, as described below).

The conference agreement includes the provision in the Senate amendment to expand the definition of ''start-up firms'' under section 41(c)(3)(B)(I).

The conference agreement includes the provision in the Senate amendment to allow taxpayers to elect an alternative incremental research credit regime, with the modification that, if a taxpayer elects the alternative incremental credit regime for its first taxable year beginning after June 30, 1996, and before July 1, 1997, then all qualified research expenses paid or incurred during the first 11 months of such taxable year are treated as qualified research expenses for purposes of computing the taxpayers's credit under the alternative incremental credit regime.

The conference agreement includes the special rule of the Senate amendment that treats 75 percent (rather than 65 percent) of payments made to certain nonprofit research consortia as qualified research expenses.

In addition, the conference agreement provides that research credit amounts earned under the conference agreement may not be taken into account in computing estimated tax payments required to be paid for taxable years beginning in 1997.

Effective date.—Under the conference agreement, extension of the research tax credit is effective for expenditures paid or incurred during the period July 1, 1996, through May 31, 1997 with a special rule for taxpayers who elect the alternative incremental research credit regime. The modification to the definition of ''start-up firms'' is effective for taxable years ending after June 30, 1996. Taxpayers may elect the alternative research credit regime (with lower fixed-base percentages and lower credit rates) for the first taxable year beginning after June 30, 1996, and before July 1, 1997, and the credit is available with respect to all qualified research expenses incurred during the first 11 months of such taxable year. The rule that treats 75 percent of qualified research consortium payments as qualified research expenses is effective for taxable years beginning after June 30, 1996.

5. ORPHAN DRUG TAX CREDIT

(Sec. 1204 of the Senate amendment.)

Present and prior law

Prior to January 1, 1995, a 50-percent nonrefundable tax credit was allowed for qualified clinical testing expenses incurred in testing of certain drugs for rare diseases or conditions, generally referred to as ''orphan drugs.'' Qualified testing expenses are costs incurred to test an orphan drug after the drug has been approved for human testing by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) but before the drug has been approved for sale by the FDA. A rare disease or condition is defined as one that (1) affects less than 200,000 persons in the United States, or (2) affects more than 200,000 persons, but for which there is no reasonable expectation that businesses could recoup the costs of developing a drug for such disease or condition for U.S. sales of the drug. These rare diseases and conditions include Huntington's disease, myoclonus, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), Tourette's syndrome, and Duchenne's dystrophy (a form of muscular dystrophy).

Under prior law, the orphan drug tax credit could be claimed by a taxpayer only to the extent that its regular tax liability for the year the credit was earned exceeded its tentative minimum tax for the year, after regular tax was reduced by nonrefundable personal credits and the foreign tax credit.[29] Unused credits could not be carried back or carried forward to reduce taxes in other years.

The orphan drug tax credit expired after December 31, 1994.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment extends the orphan drug tax credit for 18 months—i.e., for the period July 1, 1996, through December 31, 1997.

In addition, the Senate amendment allows taxpayers to carry back unused credits to three years preceding the year the credit is earned and to carry forward unused credits to 15 years following the year the credit is earned.

Effective date.—The Senate amendment applies to qualified clinical testing expenses paid or incurred during the period July 1, 1996, through December 31, 1997. The provision allowing for the carry back and carry forward of unused credits is effective for taxable years ending after June 30, 1996. No portion of the unused business credit that is attributable to the orphan drug credit could be carried back under section 39 to a taxable year ending before July 1, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement extends the orphan drug tax credit for 11 months—i.e., for the period July 1, 1996, through May 31, 1997.

In addition, the conference agreement includes the provision of the Senate amendment that allows taxpayers to carry back unused credits to three years preceding the year the credit is earned and to carry forward unused credits to 15 years following the year the credit is earned.

Effective date.—The conference agreement applies to qualified clinical testing expenses paid or incurred during the period July 1, 1996, through May 31, 1997. The provision allowing for the carry back and carry forward of unused credits is effective for taxable years ending after June 30, 1996. No portion of the unused business credit that is attributable to the orphan drug credit could be carried back under section 39 to a taxable year ending before July 1, 1996.

6. CONTRIBUTIONS OF STOCK TO PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS

(Sec. 1205 of the Senate amendment.)

Present and prior law

In computing taxable income, a taxpayer who itemizes deductions generally is allowed to deduct the fair market value of property contributed to a charitable organization.[30] However, in the case of a charitable contribution of short-term gain, inventory, or other ordinary income property, the amount of the deduction generally is limited to the taxpayer's basis in the property. In the case of a charitable contribution of tangible personal property, the deduction is limited to the taxpayer's basis in such property if the use by the recipient charitable organization is unrelated to the organization's tax-exempt purpose.[31]

In cases involving contributions to a private foundation (other than certain private operating foundations), the amount of the deduction is limited to the taxpayer's basis in the property. However, under a special rule contained in section 170(e)(5), taxpayers were allowed a deduction equal to the fair market value of ''qualified appreciated stock'' contributed to a private foundation prior to January 1, 1995. Qualified appreciated stock was defined as publicly traded stock which is capital gain property. The fair-market-value deduction for qualified appreciated stock donations applied only to the extent that total donations made by the donor to private foundations of stock in a particular corporation did not exceed 10 percent of the outstanding stock of that corporation. For this purpose, an individual was

[29] To the extent that the orphan drug tax credit could not be used by reason of the minimum tax limitation, the taxpayer's minimum tax credit was increased (sec. 53(d)(1)(B)(iii)).

[30] The amount of the deduction allowable for a taxable year with respect to a charitable contribution may be reduced depending on the type of property contributed, the type of charitable organization to which the property is contributed, and the income of the taxpayer (sec. 170(b) and 170(e)).

[31] As part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Congress eliminated the treatment of contributions of appreciated property (real, personal, and intangible) as a tax preference for alternative minimum tax (AMT) purposes. Thus, if a taxpayer makes a gift to charity of property (other than short-term gain, inventory, or other ordinary income property, or gifts to private foundations) that is real property, intangible property, or tangible personal property the use of which is related to the donee's tax-exempt purpose, the taxpayer is allowed to claim the same fair-market-value deduction for both regular tax and AMT purposes (subject to present-law percentage limitations).

treated as making all contributions that were made by any member of the individual's family. This special rule contained in section 170(e)(5) expired after December 31, 1994.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment extends the special rule contained in section 170(e)(5) for 18 months—i.e., for contributions of qualified appreciated stock made to private foundations during the period July 1, 1996, through December 31, 1997.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for contributions of qualified appreciated stock to private foundations made during the period July 1, 1996, through December 31, 1997.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement extends the special rule contained in section 170(e)(5) for 11 months—i.e., for contributions of qualified appreciated stock made to private foundations during the period July 1, 1996, through May 31, 1997.[32]

Effective date.—The provision is effective for contributions of qualified appreciated stock to private foundations made during the period July 1, 1996, through May 31, 1997.

7. TAX CREDIT FOR PRODUCING FUEL FROM A NONCONVENTIONAL SOURCE

(Sec. 1206 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Certain fuels produced from ''nonconventional sources'' and sold to unrelated parties are eligible for an income tax credit equal to $3 (generally adjusted for inflation) per barrel or BTU oil barrel equivalent (sec. 29). Qualified fuels must be produced within the United States.

Qualified fuels include: (1) oil produced from shale and tar sands; (2) gas produced from geopressured brine, Devonian shale, coal seams, tight formations (''tight sands''), or biomass; and (3) liquid, gaseous, or solid synthetic fuels produced from coal (including lignite).

In general, the credit is available only with respect to fuels produced from wells drilled or facilities placed in service after December 31, 1979, and before January 1, 1993. An exception extends the January 1, 1993 expiration date for facilities producing gas from biomass and synthetic fuel from coal if the facility producing the fuel is placed in service before January 1, 1997, pursuant to a binding contract entered into before January 1, 1996.

The credit may be claimed for qualified fuels produced and sold before January 1, 2003 (in the case of nonconventional sources subject to the January 1, 1993 expiration date) or January 1, 2008 (in the case of biomass gas and synthetic fuel facilities eligible for the extension period).

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment extends the binding contract date for facilities producing synthetic fuels from coal and gas from biomass until the date which is six months after the date of the provision's enactment, and the placed in service date for two years. The present sunset on producing qualifying for the credit is not changed.

Therefore, under the provision, synthetic fuels from coal and gas from biomass produced from a facility placed in service before January 1, 1999, pursuant to a binding contract entered into before the date which is six months after the date of the provision's enactment, will be eligible for the tax credit if produced before January 1, 2008.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment with two modifications. First, the conference agreement extends the binding contract date for facilities producing synthetic fuels from coal and gas from biomass through December 31, 1996, rather than for six months after the date of enactment as would have been provided in the Senate amendment. Second, the conference agreement extends the placed in service date for eighteen months, rather than for two years as would have been provided in the Senate amendment. The conference agreement does not change the present-law sunset on production qualifying for the credit.

Therefore, under the conference agreement, synthetic fuels from coal and gas from biomass produced from a facility placed in service before July 1, 1998, pursuant to a binding contract entered into before January 1, 1997, will be eligible for the tax credit if produced before January 1, 2008.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

8. SUSPEND IMPOSITION OF DIESEL FUEL TAX ON RECREATIONAL MOTORBOATS

(Sec. 1207 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Diesel fuel used in recreational motorboats is subject to a 24.4 cents-per-gallon excise tax through December 31, 1999. This tax was enacted by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 as a revenue offset for repeal of the excise tax on certain luxury boats. Revenues from this tax are retained in the General Fund.

The diesel fuel tax is imposed on removal of the fuel from a registered terminal facility (i.e., at the ''terminal rack''). Present law provides that tax is imposed on all diesel fuel removed from terminal facilities unless the fuel is destined for a nontaxable use and is indelibly dyed pursuant to Treasury Department regulations. If fuel on which tax is paid at the terminal rack (i.e., undyed diesel fuel) ultimately is used in a nontaxable use, a refund is allowed. Depending on the aggregate amount of tax to be refunded, this refund may be claimed either by a direct filing with the Internal Revenue Service or as a credit against income tax.

Dyed diesel fuel (fuel on which no tax is paid) may not be used in a taxable use. Present law imposes a penalty equal to the greater of $10 per gallon or $1,000 on persons found to be violating this prohibition.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides that no tax will be imposed on diesel fuel used in recreational motorboats during the period beginning seven days after the date of enactment through December 31, 1997.

In addition, the Senate Finance Committee requested that the Treasury Department study possible alternatives to the current collection regime for motoboat diesel fuel that will provide comparable compliance with the law, and report to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance no later than April 1, 1997.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

9. EXTENSION OF TRANSITION RULE FOR CERTAIN PUBLICLY TRADED PARTNERSHIPS

(Sec. 1208 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law provides that, in general, a publicly traded partnership is treated as a corporation for Federal income tax purposes. An exception is provided for certain partnerships, 90 percent or more of whose gross income is passive-type income (as defined for purposes of the provision). A publicly traded partnership is any partnership if (1) partnership interests are traded on an established securities market, or (2) partnership interests are readily tradable on a secondary market (or the substantial equivalent). This provision was added by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (the ''1987 Act''), and applied generally to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1987.

The 1987 Act provided a 10-year grandfather rule for certain existing partnerships. Thus, the provision becomes effective for such existing partnerships for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1997. The 1987 Act provides that an existing partnership is one: (1) which was a publicly traded partnership on December 17, 1987; (2) with respect to which a registration statement indicating that such partnership was to be a publicly traded partnership was filed with the Securities and Exchange commission on or before December 17, 1987, or (3) with respect to which an application was filed with a State regulatory commission on or before December 17, 1987 seeking permission to restructure a portion of a corporation as a publicly traded partnership. A partnership ceases to be treated as an existing partnership if it adds a substantial new line of business after December 17,1987.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides a two-year extension of the ten-year grandfather rule for existing partnerships. Thus, under the Senate amendment, the present-law provision treating publicly traded partnerships as corporations applies to existing partnerships for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1999.

Effective date.—The provision takes effect as if included in the 1987 Act.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

C. PROVISIONS RELATING TO S. CORPORATIONS

1. S CORPORATIONS PERMITTED TO HAVE 75 SHAREHOLDERS

(Sec. 1301 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

The taxable income or loss of an S corporation is taken into account by the corporation's shareholders, rather than by the entity, whether or not such income is distributed. A small business corporation may elect to be treated as an S corporation. A ''small business corporation'' is defined as a domestic corporation which is not an ineligible corporation and which does not have (1) more than 35 shareholders, (2) as a shareholder, a person (other than certain trusts or estates) who is not an individual, (3) a nonresident alien as a shareholder, and (4) more than one class of stock. For purposes of the 35-shareholder limitation, a husband and wife are treated as one shareholder.

House bill

The House bill increases maximum number of eligible shareholders from 35 to 75.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

[32] If, during this period, a taxpayer contributes qualified appreciated stock as defined in section 170(e)(5) and the amount of such contribution exceeds the percentage limitation under section 170(b)(1)(D), the excess may be carried over to succeeding taxable years. See, e.g., LTR 9444029, LTR 9424020.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

2. ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUSTS

(Sec. 1302 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, trusts other than grantor trusts, voting trusts, certain testamentary trusts and ''qualified subchapter S trusts'' may not be shareholders in an S corporation. A ''qualified subchapter S trust'' is a trust which, under its terms, (1) is required to have only one current income beneficiary (for life), (2) any corpus distributed during the life of the beneficiary must be distributed to the beneficiary, (3) the beneficiary's income interest must terminate at the earlier of the beneficiary's death or the termination of the trust, and (4) if the trust terminates during the beneficiary's life, the trust assets must be distributed to the beneficiary. All the income (as defined for local law purposes) must be currently distributed to that beneficiary. The beneficiary is treated as the owner of the portion of the trust consisting of the stock in the S corporation.

House bill

In general

The House bill allows stock in an S corporation to be held by certain trusts (''electing small business trusts''). In order to qualify for this treatment, all beneficiaries of the trust must be individuals or estates eligible to be S corporation shareholders, except that charitable organizations may hold contingent remainder interests. No interest in the trust may be acquired by purchase. For this purpose, ''purchase'' means any acquisition of property with a cost basis (determined under sec. 1012). Thus, interests in the trust must be acquired by reason of gift, bequest, etc. A trust must elect to be treated as an electing small business trust.

Each potential current beneficiary of the trust is counted as a shareholder for purposes of the proposed 75 shareholder limitation (or if there were no potential current beneficiaries, the trust would be treated as the shareholder). A potential current income beneficiary means any person, with respect to the applicable period, who is entitled to, or at the discretion of any person may receive, a distribution from the principal or income of the trust.

Treatment of items relating to S corporation stock

The portion of the trust which consists of stock in one or more S corporations is treated as a separate trust for purposes of computing the income tax attributable to the S corporation stock held by the trust. The trust is taxed at the highest individual rate (currently, 39.6 percent on ordinary income and 28 percent on net capital gain) on this portion of the trust's income. The taxable income attributable to this portion includes (1) the items of income, loss, or deduction allocated to it as an S corporation shareholder under the rules of subchapter S, (2) gain or loss from the sale of the S corporation stock, and (3) to the extent provided in regulations, any state or local income taxes and administrative expenses of the trust properly allocable to the S corporation stock. Otherwise allowable capital losses are allowed only to the extent of capital gains.

In computing the trust's income tax on this portion of the trust, no deduction is allowed for amounts distributed to beneficiaries, and no deduction or credit is allowed for any item other than the items described above. This income is not included in the distributable net income of the trust, and thus is not included in the beneficiaries' income. No item relating to the S corporation stock could be apportioned to any beneficiary.

On the termination of all or any portion of an electing small business trust the loss carryovers or excess deductions referred to in section 642(h) is taken into account by the entire trust, subject to the usual rules on termination of the entire trust.

Treatment of remainder of items held by trust

In determining the tax liability with regard to the remaining portion of the trust, the items taken into account by the subchapter S portion of the trust are disregarded. Although distributions from the trust are deductible in computing the taxable income on this portion of the trust, under the usual rules of subchapter J, the trust's distributable net income does not include any income attributable to the S corporation stock.

Termination of trust and conforming amendment applicable to all trusts

Where the trust terminates before the end of the S corporation's taxable year, the trust takes into account its pro rata share of S corporation items for its final year. The bill makes a conforming amendment applicable to all trusts and estates clarifying that this is the present-law treatment of trusts and estates that terminate before the end of the S corporation's taxable year.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

3. EXPANSION OF POST-DEATH QUALIFICATION FOR CERTAIN TRUSTS

(Sec. 1303 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, trusts other than grantor trusts, voting trusts, certain testamentary trusts and ''qualified subchapter S trusts'' may not be shareholders in a S corporation. A grantor trust may remain an S corporation shareholder for 60 days after the death of the grantor. The 60-day period is extended to two years if the entire corpus of the trust is includable in the gross estate of the deemed owner. In addition, a trust may be an S corporation shareholder for 60 days after the transfer of S corporation pursuant to a will.

House bill

The House bill expands the post-death holding period to two years for all testamentary trusts.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

4. FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS PERMITTED TO HOLD SAFE HARBOR DEBT

(Sec. 1304 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A small business corporation eligible to be an S corporation may not have more than one class of stock. Certain debt (''straight debt'') is not treated as a second class of stock so long as such debt is an unconditional promise to pay on demand or on a specified date a sum certain in money if: (1) the interest rate (and interest payment dates) are not contingent on profits, the borrower's discretion, or similar factors; (2) there is no convertibility (directly or indirectly) into stock, and (3) the creditor is an individual (other than a nonresident alien), an estate, or certain qualified trusts.

House bill

The definition of ''straight debt'' is expanded to include debt held by creditors, other than individuals, that are actively and regularly engaged in the business of lending money.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

5. RULES RELATING TO INADVERTENT TERMINATIONS AND INVALID ELECTIONS

(Sec. 1305 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, if the Internal Revenue Service (''IRS'') determines that a corporation's Subchapter S election is inadvertently terminated, the IRS can waive the effect of the terminating event for any period if the corporation timely corrects the event and if the corporation and shareholders agree to be treated as if the election had been in effect for that period. Such waivers generally are obtained through the issuance of a private letter ruling. Present law does not grant the IRS the ability to waive the effect of an inadvertent invalid Subchapter S election.

In addition, under present law, a small business corporation must elect to be an S corporation no later than the 15th day of the third month of the taxable year for which the election is effective. The IRS may not validate a late election.

House bill

Under the House bill, the authority of the IRS to waive the effect of an inadvertent termination is extended to allow the Service to waive the effect of an invalid election caused by an inadvertent failure to qualify as a small business corporation or to obtain the required shareholder consents (including elections regarding qualified subchapter S trusts), or both. The House bill also allows the IRS to treat a late Subchapter S election as timely where the Service determines that there was reasonable cause for the failure to make the election timely. It is intended that the IRS be reasonable in exercising this authority and apply standards that are similar to those applied under present law to inadvertent subchapter S terminations and other late or invalid elections.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1982.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment. The conferees wish to clarify that in exercising the authority provided under the provision, the IRS may consider relevant information provided by any affected shareholder (including a person who became a shareholder in a subsequent year) before determining the validity of the S election for the taxable year in question.

6. AGREEMENT TO TERMINATE YEAR

(Sec. 1306 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general, each item of S corporation income, deduction and loss is allocated to shareholders on a per-share, per-day basis. However, if any shareholder terminates his or her interest in an S corporation during a taxable year, the S corporation, with the consent of all its shareholders, may elect to allocate S corporation items by closing its books as of the date of such termination rather than apply the per-share, per-day rule.

House bill

The House bill provides that, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, the election to close the books of the S corporation upon the termination of a shareholder's interest is made by all affected shareholders and the corporation, rather than by all shareholders. The closing of the books applies only to the affected shareholders. For this purpose, ''affected shareholders'' means any shareholder whose interest is terminated and all shareholders to whom such shareholder has transferred shares during the year. If a shareholder transferred shares to the corporation, ''affected shareholders'' includes all persons who were shareholders during the year.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

7. EXPANSION OF POST-TERMINATION TRANSITION PERIOD

(Sec. 1307 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Distributions made by a former S corporation during its post-termination period are treated in the same manner as if the distributions were made by an S corporation (e.g., treated by shareholders as nontaxable distributions to the extent of the accumulated adjustment account). Distributions made after the post-termination period are generally treated as made by a C corporation (i.e., treated by shareholders as taxable dividends to the extent of earnings and profits).

The ''post-termination period'' is the period beginning on the day after the last day of the last taxable year of the S corporation and ending on the later of: (1) a date that is one year later, or (2) the due date for filing the return for the last taxable year and the 120-day period beginning on the date of a determination that the corporation's S corporation election had terminated for a previous taxable year.

In addition, the audit procedures adopted by the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (''TEFRA'') with respect to partnerships also apply to S corporations. Thus, the tax treatment of items is determined at the corporate, rather than individual level.

House bill

The present-law definition of post-termination period is expanded to include the 120-day period beginning on the date of any determination pursuant to an audit of the taxpayer that follows the termination of the S corporation's election and that adjusts a subchapter S item of income, loss or deduction of the S corporation during the S period. In addition, the definition of ''determination'' is expanded to include a final disposition of the Secretary of the Treasury of a claim for refund and, under regulations, certain agreements between the Secretary and any person, relating to the tax liability of the person.

In addition, the House bill repeals the TEFRA audit provisions applicable to S corporations and would provide other rules to require consistency between the returns of the S corporation and its shareholders.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

8. S CORPORATIONS PERMITTED TO HOLD SUBSIDIARIES

(Sec. 1308 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A small business corporation may not be a member of an affiliated group of corporations (other than by reason of ownership in certain inactive corporations). Thus, an S corporation may not own 80 percent or more of the stock of another corporation (whether an S corporation or a C corporation).

In addition, a small business corporation may not have as a shareholder another corporation (whether an S corporation or a C corporation).

House bill

An S corporation is allowed to own 80 percent or more of the stock of a C corporation. The C corporation subsidiary could elect to join in the filing of a consolidated return with its affiliated C corporations. An S corporation is not allowed to join in such election. Dividends received by an S corporation from a C corporation in which the S corporation has an 80 percent or greater ownership stake is not treated as passive investment income for purposes of sections 1362 and 1375 to the extent the dividends are attributable to the earnings and profits of the C corporation derived from the active conduct of a trade or business.

In addition, an S corporation is allowed to own a qualified subchapter S subsidiary. The term ''qualified subchapter S subsidiary'' means a domestic corporation that is not an ineligible corporation (i.e., a corporation that would be eligible to be an S corporation if the stock of the corporation were held directly by the shareholders of its parent S corporation) if (1) 100 percent of the stock of the subsidiary were held by its S corporation parent and (2) for which the parent elects to treat as a qualified subchapter S subsidiary. Under the election, the qualified subchapter S subsidiary is not treated as a separate corporation and all the assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of the subsidiary are treated as the assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of the parent S corporation.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

9. TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS DURING LOSS YEARS

(Sec. 1309 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, the amount of loss an S corporation shareholder may take into account for a taxable year cannot exceed the sum of the shareholder's adjusted basis in his or her stock of the corporation and the adjusted basis in any indebtedness of the corporation to the shareholder. Any excess loss is carried forward.

Any distribution to a shareholder by an S corporation generally is tax-free to the shareholder to the extent of the shareholder's adjusted basis of his or her stock. The shareholder's adjusted basis is reduced by the tax-free amount of the distribution. Any distribution in excess of the shareholder's adjusted basis is treated as gain from the sale or exchange of property.

Under present law, income (whether or not taxable) and expenses (whether or not deductible) serve, respectively, to increase and decrease an S corporation shareholder's basis in the stock of the corporation. These rules require that the adjustments to basis for items of both income and loss for any taxable year apply before the adjustment for distributions applies.

These rules limiting losses and allowing tax-free distributions up to the amount of the shareholder's adjusted basis are similar in certain respects to the rules governing the treatment of losses and cash distributions by partnerships. Under the partnership rules (unlike the S corporation rules), for any taxable year, a partner's basis is first increased by items of income, then decreased by distributions, and finally is decreased by losses for that year.

In addition, if the S corporation has accumulated earnings and profits, any distribution in excess of the amount in an ''accumulated adjustments account'' will be treated as a dividend (to the extent of the accumulated earnings and profits). A dividend distribution does not reduce the adjusted basis of the shareholder's stock. The ''accumulated adjustments account'' generally is the amount of the accumulated undistributed post-1982 gross income less deductions.

House bill

The House bill provides that the adjustments for distributions made by an S corporation during a taxable year are taken into account before applying the loss limitation for the year. Thus, distributions during a year reduce the adjusted basis for purposes of determining the allowable loss for the year, but the loss for a year does not reduce the adjusted basis for purposes of determining the tax status of the distributions made during that year.

The House bill also provides that in determining the amount in the accumulated adjustment account for purposes of determining the tax treatment of distributions made during a taxable year by an S corporation having accumulated earnings and profits, net negative adjustments (i.e., the excess of losses and deductions over income) for that taxable year are disregarded.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

10. TREATMENT OF S CORPORATIONS UNDER SUBCHAPTER C

(Sec. 1310 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law contains several provisions relating to the treatment of S corporations as corporations generally for purpose of the Internal Revenue Code.

First, under present law, the taxable income of an S corporation is computed in the same manner as in the case of an individual (sec. 1363(b)). Under this rule, the provisions of the Code governing the computation of

taxable income which are applicable only to corporations, such as the dividends received deduction, do not apply to S corporations.

Second, except as otherwise provided by the Internal Revenue Code and except to the extent inconsistent with subchapter S, subchapter C (i.e., the rules relating to corporate distributions and adjustments) applies to an S corporation and its shareholders (sec. 1371(a)(1)). Under this second rule, provisions such as the corporate reorganization provisions apply to S corporations. Thus, a C corporation may merge into an S corporation tax-free.

Finally, an S corporation in its capacity as a shareholder of another corporation is treated as an individual for purposes of subchapter C (sec. 1371(a)(2)). In 1988, the Internal Revenue Service took the position that this rule prevents the tax-free liquidation of a C corporation into an S corporation because a C corporation cannot liquidate tax-free when owned by an individual shareholder.[33] In 1992, the Internal Revenue Service reversed its position, stating that the prior ruling was incorrect.[34]

House bill

The House bill repeals the rule that treats an S corporation in its capacity as a shareholder of another corporation as an individual. Thus, the provision clarifies that the liquidation of a C corporation into an S corporation will be governed by the generally applicable subchapter C rules, including the provisions of sections 332 and 337 allowing the tax-free liquidation of a corporation into its parent corporation. Following a tax-free liquidation, the built-in gains of the liquidating corporation may later be subject to tax under section 1374 upon a subsequent disposition. An S corporation also will be eligible to make a section 338 election (assuming all the requirements are otherwise met), resulting in immediate recognition of all the acquired C corporation's gains and losses (and the resulting imposition of a tax).

The repeal of this rule does not change the general rule governing the computation of income of an S corporation. For example, it does not allow an S corporation, or its shareholders, to claim a dividends received deduction with respect to dividends received by the S corporation, or to treat any item of income or deduction in a manner inconsistent with the treatment accorded to individual taxpayers.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

11. ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN EARNINGS AND PROFITS

(Sec. 1311 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, the accumulated earnings and profits of a corporation are not increased for any year in which an election to be treated as an S corporation is in effect. However, under the subchapter S rules in effect before revision in 1982, a corporation electing subchapter S for a taxable year increased its accumulated earnings and profits if its earnings and profits for the year exceeded both its taxable income for the year and its distributions out of that year's earnings and profits. As a result of this rule, a shareholder may later be required to include in his or her income the accumulated earnings and profits when it is distributed by the corporation. The 1982 revision to subchapter S repealed this rule for earnings attributable to taxable years beginning after 1982 but did not do so for previously accumulated S corporation earnings and profits.

House bill

The House bill provides that if a corporation is an S corporation for its first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, the accumulated earnings and profits of the corporation as of the beginning of that year is reduced by the accumulated earnings and profits (if any) accumulated in any taxable year beginning before January 1, 1983, for which the corporation was an electing small business corporation under subchapter S. Thus, such a corporation's accumulated earnings and profits are solely attributable to taxable years for which an S election was not in effect. This rule is generally consistent with the change adopted in 1982 limiting the S shareholder's taxable income attributable to S corporation earnings to his or her share of the taxable income of the S corporation.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

12. CARRYOVER OF DISALLOWED LOSSES AND DEDUCTIONS UNDER THE AT-RISK RULES

(Sec. 1312 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under section 1366, the amount of loss an S corporation shareholder may take into account cannot exceed the sum of the shareholder's adjusted basis in his or her stock of the corporation and the unadjusted basis in any indebtedness of the corporation to the shareholder. Any disallowed loss is carried forward to the next taxable year. Any loss that is disallowed for the last taxable year of the S corporation may be carried forward to the post-termination period. The ''post-termination period'' is the period beginning on the day after the last day of the last taxable year of the S corporation and ending on the later of: (1) a date that is one year later, or (2) the due date for filing the return for the last taxable year and the 120-day period beginning on the date of a determination that the corporation's S corporation election had terminated for a previous taxable year.

In addition, under section 465, a shareholder of an S corporation may not deduct losses that are flowed through from the corporation to the extent the shareholder is not ''at-risk'' with respect to the loss. Any loss not deductible in one taxable year because of the at-risk rules is carried forward to the next taxable year.

House bill

Losses of an S corporation that are suspended under the at-risk rules of section 465 are carried forward to the S corporation's post-termination period.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

13. ADJUSTMENTS TO BASIS OF INHERITED S STOCK TO REFLECT CERTAIN ITEMS OF INCOME

(Sec. 1313 of the house bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Income in respect to a decedent (''IRD'') generally consists of items of gross income that accrued during the decedent's lifetime but were not includible in the decedent's income before his or her death under his or her method of accounting. IRD is includible in the income of the person acquiring the right to receive such item. A deduction for the estate tax attributable to an item of IRD is allowed to such person (sec. 681(c)). The cost or basis of property acquired from a decedent is its fair market value at the date of death (or alternate valuation date if that date is elected for estate tax purposes). This basis is often referred to as ''stepped-up basis.'' Property that constitutes a right to receive IRD does not receive a stepped-up basis.

The basis of a partnership interest or corporate stock acquired from a decedent generally is stepped-up at death. Under Treasury regulations, the basis of a partnership interest acquired from a decedent is reduced to the extent that its value is attributable to items constituting IRD (Treas. reg. sec. 1.742–1). This rule insures that the items of IRD held by a partnership are not later offset by a loss arising from a stepped-up basis. Although S corporation income is taxed to its shareholders in a manner similar to the taxation of a partnership and its partners, no comparable regulation require a reduction in the basis of stock in an S corporation acquired from a decedent where the S corporation holds items of IRD.

House bill

The House bill provides that a person acquiring stock in an S corporation from a decedent would treat as IRD his or her pro rata share of any item of income of the corporation that would have been IRD if that item had been acquired directly from the decedent. Where an item is treated as IRD, a deduction for the estate tax attributable to the item generally will be allowed under the provisions of section 691(c). The stepped-up basis in the stock in an S corporation acquired from a decedent is reduced by the extent to which the value of the stock is attributable to items consisting of IRD. This basis rule is comparable to the present-law partnership rule.

Effective date.—The provision applies with respect to decedent dying after the date of enactment.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

14. S CORPORATION ELIGIBLE FOR RULES APPLICABLE TO REAL PROPERTY SUBDIVIDED FOR SALE BY NONCORPORATE TAXPAYERS

(Sec. 1314 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present-law section 1237, a lot or parcel of land held by a taxpayer other than a corporation generally is not treated as ordinary income property solely by reason of the land being subdivided if: (1) such parcel had not previously been held as ordinary income property and if in the year of sale, the taxpayer did not hold other real property; (2) no substantial improvement has been made on the land by the taxpayer, a related party, a lessee, or a government; and (3) the land has been held by the taxpayer for five years.

House bill

The House bill allows the present-law capital gains presumption in the case of land held by an S corporation. It is expected that rules similar to the attribution rules for partnerships will apply to S corporation (Treas. reg. sec. 1. 1237–1(b)(3)).

[33] PLR 8818049, (Feb. 10, 1988).

[34] PLR 9245004, (July 28, 1992).

Effective date.—The provision is effective for sales in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

15. CERTAIN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AS ELIGIBLE CORPORATIONS

(Sec. 1315 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A small business corporation may elect to be treated as an S corporation. A ''small business corporation'' is defined as a domestic corporation which is not an ineligible corporation and which meets certain other requirements. An ''ineligible corporation'' means any corporation which is a member of an affiliated group, certain depository financial institutions (i.e., banks, domestic savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, and certain cooperative banks), certain insurance companies, a section 936 corporation, or a DISC or former DISC.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

A bank (as defined in sec. 581) is allowed to be an eligible small business corporation unless such institution uses a reserve method of accounting for bad debts.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

16. CERTAIN TAX-EXEMPT ENTITIES ALLOWED TO BE SHAREHOLDERS

(Sec. 1316 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A tax-exempt organization described in section 401(a) (relating to qualified retirement plan trusts) or section 501(c)(3) (relating to certain charitable organizations) cannot be a shareholder in an S corporation.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Tax-exempt organizations described in Code sections 401(a) and 501(c)(3) (''qualified tax-exempt shareholders'') are allowed to be shareholders in S corporations. For purposes of determining the number of shareholders of an S corporation, a qualified tax-exempt shareholder will count as one shareholder.

Items of income or loss of an S corporation will flow-through to qualified tax-exempt shareholders as unrelated business taxable income (''UBTI''), regardless of the source or nature of such income (e.g., passive income of an S corporation will flow through to the qualified tax-exempt shareholders as UBTI.) In addition, gain or loss on the sale or other disposition of stock of an S corporation by a qualified tax-exempt shareholder will be treated as UBTI.

In addition, certain special tax rules relating to employee stock ownership plans (''ESOPs'') will not apply with respect to S corporation stock held by the ESOP.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1997.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement generally follows the Senate amendment. In addition, the conference agreement provides that if a qualified tax-exempt shareholder acquired, by purchase, stock in an S corporation (whether such stock was acquired when the corporation was a C or an S corporation) and receives a dividend distribution with respect to such S corporation stock (i.e., a distribution of subchapter C earnings and profits), except as provided in regulations the shareholder must reduce its basis in the stock by the amount of the dividend. Regulations may provide that the basis reduction only would apply to the extent the dividend is deemed to be allocable to subchapter C earnings and profits that accrued on or before the date of acquisition.

17. REELECTING SUBCHAPTER S STATUS

(Sec. 1315(b) of the House bill and sec. 1317(b) of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A small business corporation that terminates its subchapter S election (whether by revocation or otherwise) may not make another election to be an S corporation for five taxable years unless the Secretary of the Treasury consents to such election.

House bill

For purposes of the five-year rule, any termination of subchapter S status in effect immediately before the date of enactment of the proposal is not be taken into account. Thus, any small business corporation that had terminated its S corporation election within the five-year period before the date of enactment may re-elect subchapter S status upon enactment of the bill without the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for terminations occurring in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 1997.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

II. PENSION SIMPLIFICATION PROVISIONS

A. SIMPLIFIED DISTRIBUTION RULES

(Secs. 1401–1404 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general, a distribution of benefits from a tax-favored retirement arrangement (i.e., a qualified plan, a qualified annuity plan, and a tax-sheltered annuity contract (sec. 403(b) annuity)) generally is includable in gross income in the year it is paid or distributed under the rules relating to the taxation of annuities.

Lump-sum distributions

Lump-sum distributions from qualified plans and qualified annuity plans are eligible for special 5-year forward averaging. In general, a lump-sum distribution is a distribution within one taxable year of the balance to the credit of an employee that becomes payable to the recipient first, on account of the death of the employee, second, after the employee attains age 59½, third, on account of the employee's separation from service, or fourth, in the case of self-employed individuals, on account of disability. Lump-sum treatment is not available for distributions from a tax-sheltered annuity.

A taxpayer is permitted to make an election with respect to a lump-sum distribution received on or after the employee attains age 59½ to use 5-year forward income averaging under the tax rates in effect for the taxable year in which the distribution is made. In general, this election allows the taxpayer to pay a separate tax on the lump-sum distribution that approximates the tax that would be due if the lump-sum distribution were received in 5 equal installments. If the election is made, the taxpayer is entitled to deduct the amount of the lump-sum distribution from gross income. Only one such election on or after 59½ may be made with respect to any employee.

Under the Tax Reform Act of 1986 (the ''1986 Act''), individuals who attained age 50 by January 1, 1986, can elect to use 10-year averaging (under the rates in effect prior to the 1986 Act) in lieu of 50 year averaging. In addition, such individuals may elect to retain capital gains treatment with respect to the pre-1974 portion of a lump sum distribution.

Exclusion of $5,000 for employer-provided death benefits

Under present law, the beneficiary or estate of a deceased employee generally can exclude up to $5,000 in benefits paid by or on behalf of an employer by reason of the employee's death (sec. 101(b)).

Recovery of basis

Amounts received as an annuity under a qualified plan generally are includable in income in the year received, except to the extent they represent the return of the recipient's investment in the contract (i.e., basis). Under present law, a pro-rata basis recovery rule generally applies, so that the portion of any annuity payment that represents nontaxable return of basis is determined by applying an exclusion ratio equal to the employee's total investment in the contract divided by the total expected payments over the term of the annuity.

Under a simplified alternative method provided by the IRS, the taxable portion of qualifying annuity payments is determined under a simplified exclusion ratio method.

In no event can the total amount excluded from income as nontaxable return of basis be greater than the recipient's total investment in the contract.

Required distributions

Present law provides uniform minimum distribution rules generally applicable to all types of tax-favored retirement vehicles, including qualified plans and annuities, IRAs, and tax-sheltered annuities.

Under present law, a qualified plan is required to provide that the entire interest of each participant will be distributed beginning no later than the participant's required beginning date (sec. 401(a)(9)). The required beginning date is generally April 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which the plan participant or IRA owner attains age 70½. In the case of a governmental plan or a church plan, the required beginning date is the later of first, such April 1, or second, the April 1 of the year following the year in which the participant retires.

House bill

Lump-sum distributions

The House bill repeals 5-year averaging for lump-sum distributions from qualified plans. Thus, the House bill repeals the separate tax paid on a lump-sum distribution and also repeals the deduction from gross income for taxpayers who elect to pay the separate tax on a lump-sum distribution.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1998. The House bill preserves the ability of certain individuals to elect 10-year averaging and capital gains treatment as provided under the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

Exclusion of $5,000 for employer-provided death benefits

The House bill repeals the $5,000 exclusion for employer-provided death benefits.

Effective date.—The provision applies with respect to decedents dying after date of enactment.

Recovery of basis

The House bill provides that basis recovery on payments from qualified plans generally

is determined under a method similar to the present-law simplified alternative method provided by the IRS. The portion of each annuity payment that represents a return of basis equals to the employee's total basis as of the annuity starting date, divided by the number of anticipated payments under the following table:

Age	*Number of payments:*
Not more than 55	360
56–60	310
61–65	260
66–70	210
More than 70	160

Effective date.—The provision is effective with respect to annuity starting dates beginning 90 days after the date of enactment.

Required distributions

The House bill modifies the rule that requires all participants in qualified plans to commence distributions by age 70½ without regard to whether the participant is still employed by the employer and generally replaces it with the rule in effect prior to the Tax Reform Act of 1986. Under the House bill, distributions generally are required to begin by April 1 of the calendar year following the later of first, the calendar year in which the employee attains age 70½ or second, the calendar year in which the employee retires. However, in the case of a 5-percent owner of the employer, distributions are required to begin no later than the April 1 of the calendar year following the year in which the 5-percent owner attains age 70½.

In addition, in the case of an employee (other than a 5-percent owner) who retires in a calendar year after attaining age 70½, the House bill generally requires the employee's accrued benefit to be actuarially increased to take into account the period after age 70½ in which the employee was not receiving benefits under the plan. Thus, under the House bill, the employee's accrued benefit is required to reflect the value of benefits that the employee would have received if the employee had retired at age 70½ and had begun receiving benefits at that time.

The actuarial adjustment rule and the rule requiring 5-percent owners to begin distributions after attainment of age 70½ does not apply, under the House bill, in the case of a governmental plan or church plan.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996. If a participant is currently receiving distributions, but does not have to under the provision, it is intended that a plan (or annuity contract) could (but would not be required to) permit the participant, with his or her consent, with his or her consent to stop receiving distributions until such distributions are required under the provision.

Senate amendment

Lump-sum distributions

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1999.

Exclusion of $5,000 for employer-provided death benefits

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Recovery of basis

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Required distributions

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

Lump-sum distributions

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

Exclusion of $5,000 for employer-provided death benefits

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

Recovery of basis

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

Required distributions

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment. The conferees intend that the actuarial adjustment rule does not apply in the case of a defined contribution plan.

B. INCREASED ACCESS TO RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLANS

1. ESTABLISH SIMPLE RETIREMENT PLANS FOR EMPLOYEES OF SMALL EMPLOYERS

(Secs. 1421–1422 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law does not contain rules relating to SIMPLE retirement plans. However, present law does provide a number of ways in which individuals can save for retirement on a tax-favored basis. These include employer-sponsored retirement plans that meet the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code (a ''qualified plan'') and individual retirement arrangements (''IRAs''). Employees can earn significant retirement benefits under employer-sponsored retirement plans. However, in order to receive tax-favored treatment, such plans must comply with a variety of rules, including complex nondiscrimination and administrative rules (including top-heavy rules). Such plans are also subject to certain requirements under the labor law provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (''ERISA'').

Contributions to an IRA can also be made by an employer at the election of an employee under a salary reduction simplified employee pension (''SARSEP''). Under SARSEPs, which are not qualified plans, employees can elect to have contributions made to the SARSEP or to receive the contributions in cash. The amount elects to have contributed to the SARSEP is not currently includible in income.

House bill

In general

The House bill creates a simplified retirement plan for small business called the savings incentive match plan for employees (''SIMPLE'') retirement plan. SIMPLE plans can be adopted by employers who employ 100 or fewer employees on any day during the year and who do not maintain another employer-sponsor retirement plan. A SIMPLE plan can be either an IRA for each employee or part of a qualified cash or deferred arrangement (''401(k) plan''). If established in IRA form, a SIMPLE plan is not subject to the nondiscrimination rules generally applicable to qualified plans (including the top-heavy rules) and simplified reporting requirements apply. Within limits, contributions to a SIMPLE plan are not taxable until withdrawn.

A SIMPLE plan can also be adopted as part of a 401(k) plan. In that case, the plan does not have to satisfy the special nondiscrimination tests applicable to 401(k) plans and is not subject to the top-heavy rules. The other qualified plan rules continue to apply.

SIMPLE retirement plans in IRA form.

In general.—A SIMPLE retirement plan allows employees to make elective contributions to an IRA. Employee contributions have to be expressed as a percentage of the employee's compensation, and cannot exceed $6,000 per year. The $6,000 dollar limit is indexed for inflation in $500 increments.

Under the House bill, the employer is required to satisfy one of two contribution formulas. Under the matching contribution formula, the employer generally is required to match employee elective contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to 3 percent of the employee's compensation. Under a special rule, the employer can elect a lower percentage matching contribution for all employees (but not less than 1 percent of each employee's compensation). A lower percentage cannot be elected for more than 2 out of any 5 years.

Alternatively, for any year, in lieu of making matching contributions, an employer may elect to make a 2 percent of compensation nonelective contribution on behalf of each eligible employee with at least $5,000 in compensation for such year. No contributions other than employee elective contributions and required employer matching contributions (or, alternatively, required employer nonelective contributions) can be made to a SIMPLE account.

Each employee of the employer who received at least $5,000 in compensation from the employer during any 2 prior years and who is reasonably expected to receive at least $5,000 in compensation during the year generally must be eligible to participate in the SIMPLE plan. Self-employed individuals can participate in a SIMPLE plan.

All contributions to an employee's SIMPLE account have to be fully vested.

Tax treatment of SIMPLE accounts, contributions, and distributions.—Contributions to a SIMPLE account generally are deductible by the employer. In the case of matching contributions, the employer is allowed a deduction for a year only if the contributions are made by the due date (including extensions) for the employer's tax return. Contributions to a SIMPLE account are excludable from the employee's income. SIMPLE accounts, like IRAs, are not subject to tax. Distributions from a SIMPLE retirement account generally are taxed under the rules applicable to IRAs. Thus, they are includable in income when withdrawn. Tax-free rollovers can be made from one SIMPLE account to another. A SIMPLE account can be rolled over to an IRA on a tax-free basis after a two-year period has expired since the individual first participated in the SIMPLE plan. To the extent an employee is no longer participating in a SIMPLE plan (e.g., the employee has terminated employment) and 2 years have expired since the employee first participated in the SIMPLE plan, the employee's SIMPLE account is treated as an IRA.

Early withdrawals from a SIMPLE account generally are subject to the 10-percent early withdrawal tax applicable to IRAs. However, withdrawals of contributions during the 2-year period beginning on the date the employee first participated in the SIMPLE plan are subject to a 25-percent early withdrawal tax (rather than 10 percent).

Employer matching or nonelective contributions to a SIMPLE account are not treated as wages for employment tax purposes.

Administrative requirements.—Each eligible employee can elect, with the 30-day period before the beginning of any year (or the 30-day period before first becoming eligible to participate), to participate in the SIMPLE plan (i.e., to make elective deferrals), and to modify any previous elections regarding the amount of contributions. An employer is required to contribute employees' elective deferrals to the employee's SIMPLE account within 30 days after the end of the month to which the contributions relate. Employees must be allowed to terminate participation in the SIMPLE plan at any time during the year (i.e., to stop making contributions). The

plan can provide that an employee who terminates participation cannot resume participation until the following year. A plan can permit (but is not required to permit) an individual to make other changes to his or her salary reduction contribution election during the year (e.g., reduce contributions). It is intended that an employer is permitted to designate a SIMPLE account trustee to which contributions on behalf of eligible employees are made.

Definitions.—For purposes of the rules relating to SIMPLE plans, compensation means compensation required to be reported by the employer on Form W–2, plus any elective deferrals of the employee. In the case of a self-employed individual, compensation means net earnings from self-employment. The term employer includes the employer and related employers. Related employers include trades or businesses under common control (whether incorporated or not), controlled groups of corporations, and affiliated service groups. In addition, the leased employee rules apply.

SIMPLE 401(k) plans

In general, under the House bill, a cash or deferred arrangement (i.e., 401(k) plan), is deemed to satisfy the special nondiscrimination tests applicable to employee elective deferrals and employer matching contributions if the plan satisfies the contribution requirements applicable to SIMPLE plans. In addition, the plan is not subject to the top-heavy rules for any year for which this safe harbor is satisfied. The plan is subject to the other qualified plan rules.

The safe harbor is satisfied if, for the year, the employer does not maintain another qualified plan and (1) employees' elective deferrals are limited to no more than $6,000, (2) the employer matches employees' elective deferrals up to 3 percent of compensation (or, alternatively, makes a 2 percent of compensation nonelective contribution on behalf of all eligible employees with at least $5,000 in compensation), and (3) no other contributions are made to the arrangement. Contributions under the safe harbor have to be 100 percent vested. The employer cannot reduce the matching percentage below 3 percent of compensation.

Repeal of SARSEPs

Under the House bill, SARSEPs are repealed.

Effective date

The provision relating to SIMPLE plans are effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996. The repeal of SARSEPs applies to years beginning after December 31, 1996, unless the SARSEP was established before January 1, 1997. Consequently, an employer is not permitted to establish a SARSEP after December 31, 1996. SARSEPs established before January 1, 1997, can continue to receive contributions under present-law rules, and new employees of the employer hired after December 31, 1996, can participate in the SARSEP in accordance with such rules.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill, except for the following modifications.

Under the Senate amendment, a SIMPLE plan can be adopted by employers who employed 100 employees or less with at least $5,000 in compensation for the preceding year. Employers who no longer qualify are given a 2-year grace period to continue to maintain the plan.

Under the Senate amendment, eligible employees are given 60 days before the beginning of any year (or the 60-day period before first beginning eligible to participate in the plan) to elect to participate in the SIMPLE plan.

For purposes of the 2 percent of compensation nonelective contribution formula, no more than $150,000 of compensation can be taken into account in any year with respect to any eligible employee.

The Senate amendment clarifies that an employer is permitted to designate a SIMPLE account trustee to which contributions on behalf of eligible employees are made. The Senate amendment also amends title I of ERISA to provide that only simplified reporting requirements apply to SIMPLE plans and so that the employer (and any other plan fiduciary) will not be subject to fiduciary liability resulting from the employee (or beneficiary) exercising control over the assets in the SIMPLE account. For this purpose, an employee (or beneficiary) is treated as exercising control over the assets in his or her account upon the earlier of (1) an affirmative election with respect to the initial investment of any contributions, (2) a rollover contribution (including a trustee-to-trustee transfer) to another SIMPLE account or IRA, or (3) one year after the SIMPLE account is established.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

2. TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 401(K)

(Sec. 1426 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, tax-exempt and State and local government organizations are generally prohibited from establishing qualified cash or deferred arrangements (sec. 401(k) plans. Qualified cash or deferred arrangements (1) or rural cooperatives, (2) adopted by State and local governments before May 6, 1986, or (3) adopted by tax-exempt organizations before July 2, 1986, are not subject to this prohibition.

House bill

The House bill allows tax-exempt organizations (including, for this purpose, Indian tribal governments, a subdivision of an Indian tribal government, an agency or instrumentality of an Indian tribal government or subdivision thereof, or a corporation chartered under Federal, State, or tribal law which is owned in whole or in part by any of such entities) to maintain qualified cash or deferred arrangements. The House bill retains the present-law prohibition against the maintenance of cash or deferred arrangements by State and local governments except to the extent it may apply to Indian tribal governments.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for plan years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill, except that the legislative history to the Senate amendment provides that no inference is intended with respect to whether Indian tribal governments are permitted to maintain qualified cash or deferred arrangements under present law.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment. Thus, under the conference agreement, no inference is intended with respect to whether Indian tribal governments are permitted to maintain qualified cash or deferred arrangements under present law.

3. SPOUSAL IRAS

(Sec. 1427 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Within limits, an individual is allowed a deduction for contributions to an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity (an ''IRA''). An individual generally is not subject to income tax on amounts held on an IRA, including earnings on contributions, until the amounts are withdrawn from the IRA.

Under present law, the maximum deductible contribution that can be made to an IRA generally is the lesser $2,000 or 100 percent of an individual's compensation (earned income in the case of a self-employed individual). In the case of a married individual whose spouse has no compensation (or elects to be treated as having no compensation), the $2,000 maximum limit on IRA contributions is increased to $2,250.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment.

The Senate amendment permits deductible IRA contributions of up to $2,000 to be made for each spouse (including, for example, a homemaker who does not work outside the home) if the combined compensation of both spouses is at least equal to the contributed amount.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

C. NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS

1. DEFINITION OF HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES AND REPEAL OF FAMILY AGGREGATION RULES

(Sec. 1431 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Definition of highly compensated employee

An employee, including a self-employed individual, is treated as highly compensated if, at any time during the year or the preceding year, the employee (1) was a 5-percent owner of the employer, (2) received more than $100,000 (for 1996) in annual compensation from the employer, (3) received more than $66,000 (for 1996) in annual compensation from the employer and was one of the top-paid 20 percent of employees during the same year, or (4) was an officer of the employer who received compensation in excess of $60,000 (for 1996). If, for any year, no officer has compensation in excess of the threshold, then the highest paid officer of the employer is treated as a highly compensated employee.

Family aggregation rules

A special rule applies with respect to the treatment of family members of certain highly compensated employees for purposes of the nondiscrimination rules applicable to qualified plans. Under the special rule, if an employee is a family member of either a 5-percent owner or 1 of the top-10 highly compensated employees by compensation, then any compensation paid to such family member and any contribution or benefit under the plan on behalf of such family member is aggregated with the compensation paid and contributions or benefits on behalf of the 5-percent owner or the highly compensated employee in the top-10 employees by compensation.

Similar family aggregation rules apply with respect to the $150,000 (for 1996) limit on compensation that may be taken into account under a qualified plan (sec. 401(a)(17)) and for deduction purposes (sec. 404(1)).

House bill

Definition of highly compensated employee

Under the House bill, an employee is treated as highly compensated if the employee (1) was a 5-percent owner of the employer at any

tie during the year or the preceding year or (2) had compensation for the preceding year in excess of $80,000 (indexed for inflation) and the employee was in the top 20 percent employees by compensation for such year. The House bill also repeals the rule requiring the highest paid officer to be treated as a highly compensated employee.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Family aggregation rules

The House bill repeals the family aggregation rules.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Definition of highly compensated employee

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill, except an employee who had compensation for the preceding year in excess of $80,000 is treated as highly compensated without regard to whether the employee was in the top 20 percent of employees by compensation.

Family aggregation rules

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

Definition of highly compensated employee

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment. Thus, under the conference agreement, a plan may elect for a plan year to use either the definition of highly compensated employee in the House bill or the Senate amendment.

Family aggregation rules

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

2. MODIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

(Sec. 1432 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, a plan is not a qualified plan unless it benefits no fewer than the lesser of (a) 50 employees of the employer or (b) 40 percent of all employees of the employer (sec. 401(a)(26)). This requirement may not be satisfied by aggregating comparable plans, but may be applied separately to different lines of business of the employer. A line of business of the employer does not qualify as a separate line of business unless it has at least 50 employees.

House bill

The House bill provides that the minimum participation rule applies only to defined benefit pension plans. In addition, the House bill provides that a defined benefit pension plan does not satisfy the rule unless it benefits no fewer than the lesser of (1) 50 employees or (2) the greater of (a) 40 percent of all employees of the employer or (b) 2 employees (1 employee if there is only 1 employee).

The House bill provides that the requirement that a line of business has at least 50 employees does not apply in determining whether a plan satisfies the minimum participation rule on a separate line of business basis.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

3. NONDISCRIMINATION RULES FOR QUALIFIED CASH OR DEFERRED ARRANGEMENTS AND MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

(Sec. 1433 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, a special nondiscrimination test applies to qualified cash or deferred arrangements (sec. 401(k) plans). The special nondiscrimination test is satisfied if the actual deferral percentage (''ADP'') for eligible highly compensated employees for a plan year is equal to or less than either (1) 125 percent of the ADP of all nonhighly compensated employees eligible to defer under the arrangement or (2) the lesser of 200 percent of the ADP of all eligible nonhighly compensated employees or such ADP plus 2 percentage points.

Employer matching contributions and after-tax employee contributions under qualified defined contribution plans are subject to a special nondiscrimination test (the actual contribution percentage (''ACP'') test) similar to the special nondiscrimination test applicable to qualified cash or deferred arrangements. Employer matching contributions that satisfy certain requirements can be used to satisfy the ADP test, but, to the extent so used, such contributions cannot be considered when calculating the ACP test.

A plan that would otherwise fail to meet the special nondiscrimination test for qualified cash or deferred arrangements is not treated as failing such test if excess contributions (with allocable income) are distributed to the employee or, in accordance with Treasury regulations, recharacterized as after-tax employee contributions. For purposes of this rule, in determining the amount of excess contributions and the employees to whom they are allocated, the elective deferrals of highly compensated employees are reduced in the order of their actual deferral percentage beginning with those highly compensated employees with the highest actual deferral percentages. A similar rule applies to employer matching contributions.

House bill

Prior-year data

The House bill modifies the special nondiscrimination tests applicable to elective deferrals and employer matching and after-tax employee contributions to provide that the maximum permitted actual deferral percentage (and actual contribution percentage) for highly compensated employees for the year is determined by reference to the actual deferral percentage (and actual contribution percentage) for nonhighly compensated employees for the preceding, rather than the current, year. A special rule applies for the first plan year.

Alternatively, under the House bill, an employer is allowed to elect to use the current year actual deferral percentage (and actual contribution percentage). Such an election can be revoked only as provided by the Secretary.

Safe harbor for cash or deferred arrangements

The House bill provides that a cash or deferred arrangement satisfies the special nondiscrimination tests if the plan satisfies one of two contribution requirements and satisfies a notice requirement.

A plan satisfies the contribution requirements under the safe harbor rule for qualified cash or deferred arrangements if the plan either first, satisfies a matching contribution requirement or second, the employer makes a nonelective contribution to a defined contribution plan of at least 3 percent of an employee's compensation on behalf of each nonhighly compensated employee who is eligible to participate in the arrangement without regard to whether the employee makes elective contributions under the arrangement.

A plan satisfies the matching contribution requirement if, under the arrangement: first, the employer makes a matching contribution on behalf of each nonhighly compensated employee that is equal to (a) 100 percent of the employee's elective contributions up to 3 percent of compensation and (b) 50 percent of the employee's elective contributions from 3 to 5 percent of compensation; and second, the rate of match with respect to any elective contribution for highly compensated employees is not greater than the rate of match for nonhighly compensated employees.

Alternatively, if the rate of matching contribution with respect to any rate of elective contribution requirement is not equal to the percentages described in the preceding paragraph, the matching contribution requirement will be deemed to be satisfied if first, the rate of an employer's matching contribution does not increase as an employer's rate of elective contribution increases and second, the aggregate amount of matching contributions at such rate of elective contribution at least equals the aggregate amount of matching contributions that would be made if matching contributions satisfied the above percentage requirements.

Employer matching and nonelective contributions used to satisfy the contribution requirements of the safe harbor rules are required to be nonforfeitable and are subject to the restrictions on withdrawals that apply to an employee's elective deferrals under a qualified cash or deferred arrangement (sec. 401(k)(2)(B) and (C)). It is intended that employer matching and nonelective contributions used to satisfy the contribution requirements of the safe harbor rules can be used to satisfy other qualified retirement plan nondiscrimination rules (except the special nondiscrimination test applicable to employer matching contributions (the ACP test)). So, for example, a cross-tested defined contribution plan that includes a qualified cash or deferred arrangement can consider such employer matching and nonelective contributions in testing.

The notice requirement is satisfied if each employee eligible to participate in the arrangement is given written notice, within a reasonable period before any year, of the employee's rights and obligations under the arrangement.

Alternative method of satisfying special nondiscrimination test for matching contributions

The House bill provides a safe harbor method of satisfying the special nondiscrimination test applicable to employer matching contributions (the ACP test). Under this safe harbor, a plan is treated as meeting the special nondiscrimination test if first, the plan meets the contribution and notice requirements applicable under the safe harbor method of satisfying the special nondiscrimination requirement for qualified cash or deferred arrangements, and second, the plan satisfies a special limitation on matching contributions.

The limitation on matching contributions is satisfied if: first, the employer matching contributions on behalf of any employee may not be made with respect to employee contributions or elective deferrals in excess of 6 percent of compensation; second, the rate of an employer's matching contribution does not increase as the rate of an employee's contributions or elective deferrals increases; and third, the matching contribution with respect to any highly compensated employee at any rate of employee contribution or elective deferral is not greater than that with respect to an employee who is not highly compensated.

Any after-tax employee contributions made under the qualified cash or deferred arrangement will continue to be tested under

the ACP test. Employer matching and nonelective contributions used to satisfy the safe harbor rules for qualified cash or deferred arrangements cannot be considered in calculating such test. However, employer matching and nonelective contributions in excess of the amount required to satisfy the safe harbor rules for qualified cash or deferred arrangements can be taken into account in calculating such test.

Distribution of excess contributions and excess aggressive contributions

The House bill provides that the total amount of excess contributions (and excess aggregate contributions) is determined as under present law, but the distribution of excess contributions (and excess aggregate contributions) are required to be made on the basis of the amount of contribution by, or on behalf of, each highly compensated employee. Thus, excess contributions (and excess aggregate contributions) are deemed attributable first to those highly compensated employees who have the greatest dollar amount of elective deferrals.

Effective date

The provisions relating to use of prior-year data and the distribution of excess contributions and excess aggregate contributions are effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996. The provisions providing for a safe harbor for qualified cash or deferred arrangements and the alternative method of satisfying the special nondiscrimination test for matching contributions are effective for years beginning after December 31, 1988.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

4. DEFINITION OF COMPENSATION FOR PURPOSES OF THE LIMITS ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS

(Sec. 1434 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law imposes limits on contributions and benefits under qualified plans based on the type of plan. For purposes of these limits, present law provides that the definition of compensation generally does not include elective employee contributions to certain employee benefit plans.

House bill

The House bill provides that elective deferrals to section 401(k) plans and similar arrangements, elective contributions to nonqualified deferred compensation plans of tax-exempt employers and State and local governments (sec. 457 plans), and salary reduction contributions to a cafeteria plan are considered compensation for purposes of the limits on contributions and benefits.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1997.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

D. MISCELLANEOUS PENSION SIMPLIFICATION

1. PLAN COVERING SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS

(Sec. 1441 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

PRESENT LAW

Under present law, certain special aggregation rules apply to plans maintained by owner employees of unincorporated businesses that do not apply to other qualified plans (sec. 401(d)(1) and (2)).

House bill

The House bill eliminates the special aggregation rules that apply to plans maintained by self-employed individuals that do not apply to other qualified plans.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

2. ELIMINATION OF SPECIAL VESTING RULE FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS

(Sec. 1442 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, except in the case of multiemployer plans, a plan is not a qualified plan unless a participant's employer-provided benefit vests at least as rapidly as under one of two alternative minimum vesting schedules. A plan satisfies the first schedule if a participant acquires a nonforfeitable right to 100 percent of the participant's accrued benefit derived from employer contributions upon the participant's completion of 5 years of service. A plan satisfies the second schedule if a participant has a nonforfeitable right to at least 10 percent of the participant's accrued benefit derived from employer contributions after 3 years of service, 40 percent at the end of 4 years of service, 60 percent at the end of 5 years of service, 80 percent at the end of 6 years of service, and 100 percent at the end of 7 years of service.

In the case of a multiemployer plan, a participant's accrued benefit derived from employer contributions is required to be 100-percent vested no later than upon the participant's completion of 10 years of service. This special rule applies only to employees covered by the plan pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.

House bill

The House bill conforms the vesting rules for multiemployer plans to the rules applicable to other qualified plans.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for plan years beginning on or after the earlier of (1) the later of January 1, 1997, or the date on which the last of the collective bargaining agreements pursuant to which the plan is maintained terminates, or (2) January 1, 1999, with respect to participants with an hour of service after the effective date.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

3. DISTRIBUTIONS UNDER RURAL COOPERATIVE PLANS

(Sec. 1443 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A qualified cash or deferred arrangement can permit withdrawals of employee elective deferrals only after the earlier of (1) the participant's separation from service, death, or disability, (2) termination of the arrangement, or (3) in the case of a profit-sharing or stock bonus plan, the attainment of age 59½ or the occurrence of a hardship of the participant. In the case of a money purchase pension plan, including a rural cooperative plan, withdrawals by participants cannot occur upon attainment of age 59½ or upon hardship.

House bill

The House bill provides that a rural cooperative plan that includes a cash or deferred arrangement may permit distributions to plan participants after the attainment of age 59½ or on account of hardship. In addition, the definition of a rural cooperative is expanded to include certain public utility districts.

Effective date.—The provision generally is effective for distributions after the date of enactment. The modifications to the definition of a rural cooperative apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

4. TREATMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL PLANS UNDER SECTION 415

(Sec. 1444 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law imposes limits on contributions and benefits under qualified plans based on the type of plan (sec. 415). Certain special rules apply to State and local governmental plans under which such plans may provide benefits greater than those permitted by the limits on benefits applicable to plans maintained by private employers.

In the case of defined benefit pension plans, the limit on the annual retirement benefit is the lesser of (1) 100 percent of compensation or (2) $120,000 (indexed for inflation). The dollar limit is reduced in the case of early retirement or if the employee has less than 10 years of plan participation.

House bill

The House bill makes the following modifications to the limits on contributions and benefits as applied to governmental plans: (1) the 100 percent of compensation limitation on defined benefit pension plan benefits would not apply; and (2) the early retirement reduction and the 10-year phase-in of the defined benefit pension plan dollar limit would not apply to certain disability and survivor benefits.

The House bill also permits State and local government employers to maintain excess benefit plans without regard to the limits on unfunded deferred compensation arrangements of State and local government employers (sec. 457).

Effective date—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1994. No inference is intended with respect to whether a governmental plan complies with the requirements of section 415 with respect to years beginning before January 1, 1995. With respect to such years, the Secretary is directed to enforce the requirements of section 415 consistent with the provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

5. UNIFORM RETIREMENT AGE

(Sec. 1445 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A qualified plan generally must provide that payment of benefits under the plan must begin no later than 60 days after the end of the plan year in which the participant reaches age 65. Also, for purpose of the vesting and benefit accrual rules, normal retirement age generally can be no later than age 65. For purposes of applying the limits on contributions and benefits (sec. 415), Social Security retirement age is generally used as

retirement age. The Social Security retirement age as used for such purposed is presently age 65, but is scheduled to gradually increase.

House bill

The House bill provides that for purposes of the general nondiscrimination rules (sec. 401(a)(4)) the Social Security retirement age (as defined in sec. 415) is a uniform retirement age and that subsidized early retirement benefits and joint and survivor annuities are not treated as not being available to employees on the same terms merely because they are based on an employee's Social Security retirement age (as defined in sec. 415).

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

6. CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF DISABLED EMPLOYEES

(Sec. 1446 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, an employer may elect to continue deductible contributions to a defined contribution plan on behalf of an employee who is permanently and totally disabled. For purposes of the limit on annual additions (sec. 415(c)), the compensation of a disabled employee is deemed to be equal to the annualized compensation of the employee prior to the employee's becoming disabled. Contributions are not permitted on behalf of disabled employees who were officer, owners, or highly compensated before they become disabled.

House bill

The House bill provides that the special rule for contributions on behalf of disabled employees is applicable without an employer election and to highly compensated employees if the defined contribution plan provides for the continuation of contributions on behalf of all participants who are permanently and totally disabled.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

7. TREATMENT OF DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLANS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS

(Sec. 1447 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under an unfunded deferred compensation plan of a State or local government or a tax-exempt organization (a ''sec. 457 plan''), an employee who elects to defer the receipt of current compensation is taxed on the amounts deferred when such amounts are paid or made available. The maximum annual deferral under such a plan is the lesser of (1) $7,500 or (2) 33⅓ percent of compensation (net of the deferral).

Amounts deferred under a section 457 plan may not be made available to an employee before the earliest of (1) the calendar year in which the participant attains age 70½, (2) when the participant is separated from the service with the employer, or (3) when the participant is faced with an unforeseeable emergency.

Benefits under a section 357 plan are not treated as made available if the participant may elect to receive a lump sum payable after separation from service and within 60 days of the election. This exception is available only if the total amount payable to the participant under the plan does not exceed $3,500 and no additional amounts may be deferred under the plan with respect to the participant.

House bill

The House bill makes three changes to the rules governing section 457 plans.

The House bill: (1) permits in-service distributions of accounts that do not exceed $3,500 under certain circumstances; (2) increases the number of elections that can be made with respect to the time distributions must begin under the plan; and (3) provides for indexing (in $500 increments) of the dollar limit on deferrals.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

8. TRUST REQUIREMENT FOR DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLANS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

(Sec. 1448 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Until deferrals under an unfunded deferred compensation plan of a State or local government or a tax-exempt organization (a ''sec. 457 plan'') are made available to a plan participant, the amounts deferred, all property and rights purchased with such amounts, and all income attributable to such amounts, property, or rights must remain solely the property and rights of the employer, subject only to the claims of the employer's general creditors.

House bill

Under the House bill, all amounts deferred under a section 457 plan maintained by a State and local governmental employer have to be held in trust (or custodial account or annuity contract) for the exclusive benefit of employees. The trust (or custodial account or annuity contract) is provided tax-exempt status. Amounts are not considered made available merely because they are held in a trust, custodial account, or annuity contract.

Effective date.—The provision generally is effective with respect to amounts held on or after the date of enactment. In the case of amounts deferred before the date of enactment (and income thereon), the trust requirement does not have to be satisfied until January 1, 1999.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Effective date.—The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill, except that in the case of plans in existence on the date of enactment, the trust requirement does not have to be satisfied until January 1, 1999. Thus, deferrals prior to and after the date of enactment (and earnings thereon) do not have to be held in trust (or custodial account or annuity contract) until January 1, 1999.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment. The conference agreement clarifies that amounts held in trust (or custodial account or annuity contract), may be loaned to plan participants (or beneficiaries) pursuant to rules applicable to loans from qualified plans (sec. 72(p)).[35] A section 457 plan is not required to permit loans. The conferees intend that the income inclusion rules in the Code (secs. 83 and 402(b), do not apply to amounts deferred under the section 457 plan (and income thereon) merely because such amounts are contributed to the trust (or custodial account or annuity contract).

Effective date.—The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment. Under the conference agreement, in the case of plans in existence on the date of enactment, the trust requirement does not have to be satisfied until January 1, 1999. Thus, deferrals prior to and after the date of enactment (and earnings thereon) do not have to be held in trust (or custodial account or annuity contract) until January 1, 1999.

9. CORRECTION OF GATT INTEREST AND MORTALITY RATE PROVISIONS IN THE RETIREMENT PROTECTION ACT

(Sec. 1449 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

The Retirement Protection Act of 1994, enacted as part of the implementing legislation for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (''GATT''), modified the acturial assumptions that must be used in adjusting benefits and limitations. In general, in adjusting a benefit that is payable in a form other than a straight life annuity and in adjusting the dollar limitation if benefits begin before age 62, the interest rate to be used cannot be less than the greater of 5 percent or the rate specified in the plan. Under GATT, if the benefit is payable in a form subject to the requirements of section 417(e)(3), then the interest rate on 30-year Treasury securities is substituted for 5 percent. Also under GATT, for purposes of adjusting any limit or benefit, the mortality table prescribed by the Secretary must be used.

This provision of GATT is generally effective as of the first day of the first limitation year beginning in 1995.

GATT made similar changes to the interest rate and mortality assumptions used to calculate the value of lump-sum distributions for purposes of the rule permitting involuntary dispositions of certain accrued benefits. In the case of a plan adopted and in effect before December 8, 1995, those provisions do not apply before the earlier of (1) the date a plan amendment applying the new assumption is adopted or made effective (whichever is later), or (2) the first day of the first plan year beginning after December 31, 1999.

House bill

The House bill conforms the effective date of the new interest rate and mortality assumptions that must be used under section 415 to calculate the limits on benefits and contributions to the effective date of the provision relating to the calculation of lump-sum distributions. This rule applies only in the case of plans that were adopted and in effect before the date of enactment of GATT (December 8, 1994). To the extent plans have already been amended to reflect the new assumptions, plan sponsors are permitted within 1 year of the date of enactment to amend the plan to reverse retroactively such amendment.

The House bill also repeals the GATT provision which requires that if the benefit is

[35] Under section 72(p), a loan from a plan is treated as a distribution unless the loan generally (1) does not exceed certain limits (generally, the lesser of $50,000 or one-half of the participant's vested plan benefit; (2) must be repaid within 5 years; and (3) must be amortized on a substantially level basis with payments at least quarterly.

payable before age 62 in a form subject to the requirements of section 417(e)(3) (e.g., lump sum), then the interest rate to be used to reduce the dollar limit on benefits under section 415 cannot be less than the greater of the rate on 30-year Treasury securities or the rate specified in the plan. Consequently, regardless of the form of benefit, the interest rate to be used cannot be less than the greater of 5 percent or the rate specified in the plan.

Effective date.—The provision is effective as if included in GATT.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

10. MULTIPLE SALARY REDUCTION AGREEMENTS PERMITTED UNDER SECTION 403(B)

(Sec. 1450(a) of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under Treasury regulations, a participant in a tax-sheltered annuity plan (sec. 403(b)) is not permitted to enter into more than one salary reduction agreement in any taxable year.

These restrictions do not apply to other elective deferral arrangements such as a qualified cash or deferred arrangement (sec. 401(k)).

House bill

Under the House bill, for participants in a tax-sheltered annuity plan, the frequency that a salary reduction agreement may be entered into the compensation to which such agreement applies, and the ability to revoke such agreement shall be determined under the rules applicable to qualified cash or deferred arrangements.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

11. TREATMENT OF INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS UNDER SECTION 403(B)

(Sec. 1450(b) of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, certain tax-exempt employers and certain State and local government educational organizations are permitted to maintain tax-sheltered annuity plans (sec. 403(b)). Indian tribal governments are treated as States for this purpose, so certain educational organizations associated with a tribal government are eligible to maintain tax-sheltered annuity plans.

House bill

The House bill provides that any section 403(b) annuity contract purchased in a plan year beginning before January 1, 1995, by an Indian tribal government will be treated as purchased by an entity permitted to maintain a tax-sheltered annuity plan. The House bill also provides that such contracts may be rolled over into a section 401(k) plan maintained by the Indian tribal government.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides that any section 403(b) annuity contract purchased in a plan year beginning before January 1, 1997, by an Indian tribal government will be treated as purchased by an entity permitted to maintain a tax-sheltered annuity plan. The Senate amendment also provides that such contracts may be rolled over into a section 401(k) plan maintained by the Indian tribal government.

In addition, beginning January 1, 1997, Indian tribal governments are permitted to maintain tax-sheltered annuity plans.

Effective date.—The provision generally is effective on the date of enactment, except that the provision permitting Indian tribal governments to maintain tax-sheltered annuity plans is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

12. APPLICATION OF ELECTIVE DEFERRAL LIMIT TO SECTION 403(B) CONTRACTS

(Sec. 1450(c) of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A tax-sheltered annuity plan must provide that elective deferrals made under the plan on behalf of an employee may not exceed the annual limit on elective deferrals ($9,500 for 1996). Plans that do not comply with this requirement may lose their tax-favored status.

House bill

Under the House bill, each tax-sheltered annuity contract, not the tax-sheltered annuity plan, must provide that elective deferrals made under the contract may not exceed the annual limit on elective deferrals. It is intended that the contract terms be given effect in order for this requirement to be satisfied.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1995, except that an annuity contract is not required to meet any change in any requirement by reason of the provision before the 90th day after the date of enactment. No inference is intended as to whether the exclusion of elective deferrals from gross income by employees who have not exceeded the annual limit on elective deferrals is affected to the extent other employees exceed the annual limit prior to the effective date of this provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

13. WAIVER OF MINIMUM WAITING PERIOD FOR QUALIFIED PLAN DISTRIBUTIONS

(Sec. 1451 of the House bill.)

Present law

Under present law, in the case of a qualified joint and survivor annuity (''QJSA''), a written explanation of the form of benefit must generally be provided to participants no less than 30 days and no more than 90 days before the annuity starting date. Temporary Treasury regulations provide that a plan may permit a participant to elect (with any applicable spousal consent) a distribution with an annuity starting date before 30 days have elapsed since the explanation was provided, as long as the distribution commences more than seven days after the explanation was provided.

House bill

The House bill provides that the minimum period between the date the explanation of the qualified joint and survivor annuity is provided and the annuity starting date does not apply if it is waived by the participant and, if applicable, the participant's spouse.

Effective date.—The provision is effective with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement codifies the provision in the temporary Treasury regulations which provides that a plan may permit a participant to elect (with any applicable spousal consent) a distribution with an annuity starting date before 30 days have elapsed since the explanation was provided, as long as the distribution commences more than seven days after the explanation was provided. The conference agreement also provides that a plan is permitted to provide the explanation after the annuity starting date if the distribution commences at least 30 days after such explanation was provided, subject to the same waiver of the 30-day minimum waiting period as described above. This is intended to allow retroactive payments of benefits which are attributable to the period before the explanation was provided.

14. EXPANSION OF PBGC MISSING PARTICIPANT PROGRAM

(Sec. 1451 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

The Retirement Protection Act (''RPA''), enacted as part of the legislation implementing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (''GATT'') in 1994, provided special rules for the payment of benefits with respect to missing participants under a terminating single-employer defined benefit plan covered by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (''PBFC''). These rules generally required the plan administrator to (1) transfer the missing participant's designated benefit to the PBGC or purchase an annuity from an insurer to satisfy the benefit liability, and (2) provide the PBGC with such information and certifications with respect to the benefits or annuity as the PBGC may specify. The missing participant program does not apply to multiemployer defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans, and defined benefit plans not covered by the PBGC (generally governmental plans, church plans, and plans sponsored by professional service employers with less than 25 employees).

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The missing participant program is generally expanded to be available to multiemployer defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans, and defend benefit plans not covered by the PBGC (other than governmental and church plans). Under the Senate amendment, the present law missing participant program applicable to single-employer defined benefits plans applies to a terminating muiltiemployer defined benefit plan under rules prescribed by the PBGC.

In the case of a terminating defined contribution plan or a terminating defined benefit plan not covered by the PBGC, the missing participant program does not apply unless the plan elects to transfer a missing participant's benefits to the PBGC. To the extent provided in regulations issued by the PBGC, the administrator of the plan making such an election is required to provide the PBGC with information with respect to the benefits of a missing participant. Upon location of the missing participant, the missing participant's benefits would be paid by the PBGC in a lump sum or in such other form as specified in regulations.

Effective date.—The provisions is effective with respect to distribution made on or after the date final regulations implementing the provision are issued by the PBGC.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

15. REPEAL OF COMBINED PLAN LIMIT

(Sec. 1452 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Combined plan limit

Present law provides limits on contributions and benefits under qualified retirement plans based on the type of plan (i.e., based on whether the plan is a defined contribution plan or a defined benefit pension plan). In the case of a defined contribution plan, annual contributions are generally limited to the lesser of $30,000 (for 1996) and 25 percent of compensation. In the case of a defined benefit pension plan, the annual benefit is generally limited to the lesser of $120,000 (for 1996) and 100 percent of the participant's average compensation for the highest 3 years. An overall limit applies if an individual is a participant in both a defined benefit pension plan and a defined contribution plan (called the combined plan limit).

Excess distribution tax

Present law imposes a 15-percent excise tax on excess distributions from qualified retirement plans, tax-sheltered annuities, and IRAs. Excess distributions are generally the aggregate amount of retirement distributions from such plans during any calendar year in excess of $150,000 (or $750,000 in the case of a lump-sum distribution). An additional 15-percent estate tax is also imposed on an individual's excess retirement accumulation.

House bill

Combined plan limit

The House bill repeals the combined plan limit.

Effective date.—The provision repealing the combined plan limit is effective with respect to limitation years beginning after December 31, 1998.

Excess distribution tax

Until the repeal of the combined plan limit is effective, the House bill suspends the excise tax on excess distributions. The additional estate tax on excess accumulations continues to apply.

Effective date.—The provision relating to the excise tax on excess distributions is effective with respect to distributions received in 1996, 1997, and 1998.

Senate amendment

Combined plan limit

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Effective date.—The provision repealing the combined plan limit is effective with respect to limitation years beginning after December 31, 1999.

Excess distribution tax

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Effective date.—The provision relating to the excise tax on excess distribution is effective with respect to distributions received in 1997, 1998, and 1999.

Conference agreement

Combined plan limit

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

Excess distribution tax

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

16. TAX ON PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS

(Sec. 1453 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law prohibits certain transactions (prohibited transactions) between a qualified plan and a disqualified person in order to prevent with a close relationship to the qualified plan from using that relationship to the detriment of plan participants and beneficiaries. A two-tier excise tax is imposed on prohibited transactions. The initial level tax is equal to 5 percent of the amount involved with respect to the transaction. If the transaction is not corrected within a certain period, a tax equal to 100 percent of the amount involved may be imposed.

House bill

The House bill increases the initial-level prohibited transaction tax from 5 percent to 10 percent.

Effective date.—The provision is effective with respect to prohibited transactions occuring after the date of enactment.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

17. TREATMENT OF LEASED EMPLOYEES

(Sec. 1454 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

An individual (a leased employee) who performs services for another person (the recipient) may be required to be treated as the recipient's employee for various employee benefit provisions, if the services are performed pursuant to an agreement between the recipient and any other person (the leasing organization) who is otherwise treated as the individual's employer (sec. 414(n)). The individual is to be treated as the recipient's employee only if the individual has performed services for the recipient on a substantially full-time basis for a year, and the services are of a type historically performed by employees in the recipient's business field.

An individual who otherwise would be treated as a recipient's leased employee will not be treated as such an employee if the individual participates in a safe harbor plan maintained by the leasing organization meeting certain requirements. Each leased employee is to be treated as an employee of the recipient, regardless of the existence of a safe harbor plan, if more than 20 percent of an employer's nonhighly compensated workforce are leased.

House bill

Under the House bill, the present-law ''historically performed'' test is replaced with a new test under which an individual is not considered a leased employee unless the individual's services are performed under primary direction or control by the service recipient. As under present law, the determination of whether someone is a leased employee is made after determining whether the individual is a common-law employee of the recipient. Thus, an individual who is not a common-law employee of the service recipient could nevertheless be a leased employee of the service recipient. Similarly, the fact that a person is or is not found to perform services under primary direction or control of the recipient for purposes of the employee leasing rules is not determinative of whether the person is or is not a common-law employee of the recipient.

Whether services are performed by an individual under primary direction or control by the service recipient depends on the facts and circumstances. In general, primary direction and control means that the service recipient exercises the majority of direction and control over the individual. Factors that are relevant in determining whether primary direction or control exists include whether the individual is required to comply with instructions of the service recipient about when, where, and how he or she is to perform the services, whether the services must be performed by a particular person, whether the individual is subject to the supervision of the service recipient, and whether the individual must perform services in the order or sequence set by the service recipient. Factors that generally are not relevant in determining whether such direction or control exists include whether the service recipient has the right to hire or fire the individual and whether the individual works for others.

For example, an individual who works under the direct supervision of the service recipient would be considered to be subject to primary direction or control of the service recipient even if another company hired and trained the individual, had the ultimate (but unexercised) legal right to control the individual, paid his wages, withheld his employment and income taxes, and had the exclusive right to fire him. Thus, for example, temporary secretaries, receptionists, word processing personnel and similar office personnel who are subject to the day-to-day control of the employer in essentially the same manner as a common law employee are treated as leased employees if the period of service threshold is reached.

On the other hand, an individual who is a common-law employee of Company A who performs services for Company B on the business premises of Company B under the supervision of Company A would generally not be considered to be under primary direction or control of Company B. The supervision by Company A must be more than nominal, however, and not merely a mechanism to avoid the literal language of the direction or control test.

An example of the situation in the preceding paragraph might be a work crew that comes into a factory to install, repair, maintain, or modify equipment or machinery at the factory. The work crew includes a supervisor who is an employee of the equipment (or equipment repair) company and who has the authority to direct and control the crew, and who actually does exercise such direction and control. In this situation, the supervisor and his or her crew are required to comply with the safety and environmental precautions of the manufacturer, and the supervisor is in frequent communication with the employees of the manufacturer. As another example, certain professionals (e.g., attorneys, accountants, actuaries, doctors, computer programmers, systems analysts, and engineers) who regularly make use of their own judgment and discretion on matters of importance in the performance of their services and are guided by professional, legal, or industry standards, are not leased employees even though the common law employer does not closely supervise the professional on a continuing basis, and the service recipient requires the services to be performed on site and according to certain stages, techniques, and timetables. In addition to the example above, outside professionals who maintain their own businesses (e.g., attorneys, accountants, actuaries, doctors, computer programmers, systems analysts, and engineers) generally would not be considered to be subject to such primary direction or control.

Under the direction or control test, clerical and similar support staff (e.g., secretaries and nurses in a doctor's office), generally would be considered to be subject to primary direction or control of the service recipient and would be leased employees provided the other requirements of section 414(n) are met.

In many cases, the ''historically performed'' test is overly broad, and results in the unintended treatment of individuals as leased employees. One of the principal purposes for changing the leased employee rules

is to relieve the unnecessary hardship and uncertainty created for employers in these circumstances. However, it is not intended that the direction or control test enable employers to engage in abusive practices. Thus, it is intended that the Secretary interpret and apply the leased employee rules in a manner so as to prevent abuses. This ability to prevent abuses under the leasing rules is in addition to the present-law authority of the Secretary under section 414(o). For example, one potentially abusive situation exists where the benefit arrangements of the service recipient overwhelmingly favor its highly compensated employees, the employer has no or very few nonhighly compensated common-law employees, yet the employer makes substantial use of the services of nonhighly compensated individuals who are not its common-law employees.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996, except that the House bill would not apply to relationships that have been previously determined by an IRS ruling not to involve leased employees. In applying the leased employee rules to years beginning before the effective date, it is intended that the Secretary use a reasonable interpretation of the statute to apply the leasing rules to prevent abuse.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

18. UNIFORM PENALTY PROVISIONS TO APPLY TO CERTAIN PENSION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(Sec. 1455 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Any person who fails to file an information report with the IRS on or before the prescribed filing date is subject to penalties for each failure. A different, flat-amount penalty applies for each failure to provide information reports to the IRS or statements to payees relating to pension payments.

House bill

The House bill incorporates into the general penalty structure the penalties for failure to provide information reports relating to pension payments to the IRS and to recipients.

Effective date.—The provision is effective with respect to returns and statements the due date for which is after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

19. RETIREMENT BENEFITS OF MINISTERS NOT SUBJECT TO TAX ON NET EARNINGS FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT

(Sec. 1456 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, certain benefits provided to ministers after they retire are subject to self-employment tax.

House bill

The House bill provides that retirement benefits received from a church plan after a minister retires, and the rental value or allowance of a parsonage (including utilities) furnished to a minister after retirement, are not subject to self-employment taxes.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning before, on, or after December 31, 1994.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

20. TREASURY TO PROVIDE MODEL FORMS FOR SPOUSAL CONSENT AND QUALIFIED DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDERS

(Sec. 1457 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law contains a number of rules designed to provide income to the surviving spouse of a deceased employee. Under these spousal protection rules, defined benefit pension plans and money purchase pension plans are required to provide that vested retirement benefits with a present value in excess of $3,500 are payable in the form of a qualified joint and survivor annuity (''QJSA'') or, in the case of a participant who dies before the annuity starting date, a qualified preretirement survivor annuity (''QPSA''). Benefits from a plan subject to the survivor benefit rules may be paid in a form other than a QJSA or QPSA if the participant waives the QJSA or QPSA (or both) and the applicable notice, election, and spousal consent requirements are satisfied.

Also, under present law, benefits under a qualified retirement plan are subject to prohibitions against assignment or alienation of benefits. An exception to this rule generally applies in the case of plan benefits paid to a former spouse pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order (''QDRO'').

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Model spousal consent form

The Secretary is required to develop a model spousal consent from, no later than January 1, 1997, waving the QJSA and QPSA forms of benefit. Such form must be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average person, and must disclose in plain form whether the waiver is irrevocable and that it may be revoked by a QDRO.

Model QDRO

The Secretary is required to develop a model QDRO, no later than January 1, 1997, which satisfies the requirements of a QDRO under present law, and the provisions of which focus attention on the need to consider the treatment of any lump sum payment, QJSA, or QPSA.

Effective date

The provisions are effective on the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment, except that instead of developing a model spousal consent form and a model QDRO, the Secretary must develop sample language for inclusion in a spousal consent form and QDRO.

21. TREATMENT OF LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS FOR CERTAIN VOLUNTEERS UNDER SECTION 457

(Sec. 1458 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Compensation deferred under an eligible deferred compensation plan of a tax-exempt or governmental employer that meets certain requirements (a ''sec. 457 plan'') is not includible in gross income until paid or made available. One of the requirements for a section 457 plan is that the maximum annual amount that can be deferred is the lesser of $7,500 or 33⅓ percent of the individual's taxable compensation.

Amounts deferred under plans of tax-exempt and governmental employers that do not meet the requirements of section 457 (other than amounts deferred under tax-qualified retirement plans, section 403(b) annuities and certain other plans) are includible in gross income in the first year in which there is no substantial risk of forfeiture of such amounts.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Under the Senate amendment, the requirements of section 457 do not apply to any plan paying solely length of service awards to bona fide volunteers (or their beneficiaries) on account of fire fighting and prevention, emergency medical, and ambulance services performed by such volunteers. An individual is considered a ''bona fide volunteer'' if the only compensation received by such individual for performing such services is reimbursement (or a reasonable allowance) for expenses incurred in the performance of such services, or reasonable benefits (including length of service awards) and nominal fees for such services customarily paid by tax-exempt or governmental employers in connection with the performance of such services by volunteers. Under the Senate amendment, a length of service award plan will not qualify for this special treatment under section 457 if the aggregate amount of length of service awards accruing with respect to any year of service for any bona fide volunteer exceeds $3,000.

In addition, any amounts exempt from the requirements of section 457 under the Senate amendment are not considered wages for purposes of the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (''FICA'') taxes.

Effective date.—The provision applies to accruals of length of service awards after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

22. ALTERNATIVE NONDISCRIMINATION RULES FOR CERTAIN PLANS THAT PROVIDE FOR EARLY PARTICIPATION

(Sec. 1459 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, a special nondiscrimination test applies to qualified cash or deferred arrangements (sec. 401(k) plans). The special nondiscrimination test is satisfied if the actual deferral percentage (''ADP'') for eligible highly compensated employees for a plan year is equal to or less than either (1) 125 percent of the ADP of all nonhighly compensated employees eligible to defer under the arrangement or (2) the lesser of 200 percent of the ADP of all eligible nonhighly compensated employees or such ADP plus 2 percentage points. Employer matching contributions and after-tax employee contributions under qualified defined contribution plans are subject to a special nondiscrimination test (the actual contribution percentage (''ACP'') test) similar to the special nondiscrimination test applicable to qualified cash or deferred arrangements.

In general, a plan need not permit employees to enter a plan prior to the attainment of age 21 and the completion of 1 year service. For purposes of the nondiscrimination rules (including the ADP and ACP tests), an employer that chooses less restrictive entry conditions (e.g., age 18 rather than age 21) may choose ''separate testing'' under which all employees who have not met the statutory age and service entry maximums are disregarded, provided that the plan satisfies the nondiscrimination rules taking into account only those employees whose age and service are less than the statutory age and service maximums. Thus, for example, such a

plan would apply one ADP test for employees who are over age 21 with 1 year of service, under which the plan would disregard elective contributions for other employees, and a second ADP test looking solely at elective contribution for employees under age 21 or who have not completed 1 year of service.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Under the Senate amendment, for purposes of the ADP test, a section 401(k) plan may elect to disregard employees (other than highly compensated employees) eligible to participate before they have completed 1 year of service and reached age 21, provided the plan separately satisfies the minimum coverage rules (sec. 410(b)) taking into account only those employees who have not completed 1 year of service or are under age 21. Instead of applying two separate ADP tests, such a plan could apply a single ADP test that compares the ADP for all highly compensated employees who are eligible to make elective contributions with the ADP for those nonhighly compensated employees who are eligible to make elective contributions and who have completed one year of service and reached age 21. A similar rule applies for purposes of the ACP test.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for plan years beginning after December 31, 1998.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

23. MODIFICATIONS OF JOINT AND SURVIVOR ANNUITY REQUIREMENTS

(Sec. 1460 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law contains a number of rules designed to provide income to the surviving spouse of a deceased employee. These rules are in both the Internal Revenue Code and title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

Under the spousal protection rules, defined benefit pension plans and money purchase pension plans are required to provide that vested retirement benefits with a present value in excess of $3,500 are payable in the form of a qualified joint and survivor annuity (''QJSA'') or, in the case of a participant who dies before the annuity starting date, a qualified preretirement survivor annuity (''QPSA''). A QJSA is generally defined as an annuity for the life of the participant with a survivor annuity for the life of the spouse which is not less than 50 percent of (and not greater than 100 percent of) the amount of the participant's annuity, and which is the actuarial equivalent of a single life annuity for the life of the participant. A QPSA is generally defined as an annuity for the life of the surviving spouse of the participant, the payments of which are not less than the amount which would be payable as a survivor annuity under the plan's QJSA.

The survivor benefit rules do not apply to defined contribution plans other than money purchase pension plans if (1) the plan provides that, upon the death of the participant, the participant's accrued benefit is payable to the participant's surviving spouse, (2) the participant does not elect payment of benefits in the form of an annuity, and (3) the plan is not a transferee plan of a plan subject to the joint and survivor rules.

Benefits from a plan subject to the survivor benefit rules may be paid in a form other than a QJSA or QPSA if the participant waives the QJSA or QPSA and the applicable notice, election, and spousal consent requirements are satisfied. Similarly, under a defined contribution plan not subject to the survivor benefit rules, the spouse can consent to have benefits paid to another beneficiary.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Under the Senate amendment, if a plan provides as its QJSA a benefit which provides a survivor annuity for the life of the spouse which is not equal to 66⅔ percent of the amount of the participant's annuity, the plan is required to provide the participant with an election to receive an annuity for the life of the participant with a survivor annuity for the life of the spouse which is 66⅔ percent of the amount of the participant's annuity.[36] If the participant makes such an election the benefit received is treated as a QJSA for purposes of the qualified plan requirements; however the fact that such an election is offered does not affect how the QPSA is calculated. In other words, the QPSA continues to be based on the regular QJSA provided under the plan.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for plan years beginning after December 31, 1996. However, plans in existence on the date of enactment do not have to comply with the requirements of the amendment before the plan year immediately following the first plan year in which any amendment to the plan that is otherwise made becomes effective.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

24. CLARIFICATION OF APPLICATION OF ERISA TO INSURANCE COMPANY GENERAL ACCOUNTS

(Sec. 1461 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (''ERISA'') imposes certain fiduciary requirements (including restrictions on certain prohibited transactions) with respect to the assets of an employee benefit plan (''plan assets''). The International Revenue Code of 1986 (the ''Code'') imposes an excise tax in the case of certain prohibited transactions involving plan assets.

In 1975, the Department of Labor issued guidance providing that if an insurance company issues a contract or policy of insurance to an employee benefit plan and places the consideration for such contract or policy in its general asset account, the assets in such account are not considered to be plan assets.[37] In 1993, the Supreme Court[38] ruled that certain assets held in an insurance company's general account should be considered plan assets.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Under the Senate amendment, not later than December 31, 1996, the Secretary of Labor is required to issue proposed regulations providing guidance for the purpose of determining, in cases where an insurer issues 1 or more policies (supported by the assets of the insurer's general account) to or for the benefit of an employee benefit plan, which assets of the insurer (other than plan assets held in its separate account) constitute plan assets for purposes of the fiduciary rules of ERISA and the prohibited transaction provisions of the Code. Such proposed regulations must be subject to public notice and comment until March 31, 1997, and the Secretary of Labor is required to issue final regulations by June 30, 1997. Any regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Senate amendment generally could not take effect before the date on which such regulations became final.

In issuing regulations, the Secretary of Labor would have to ensure that such regulations are administratively feasible and are designed to protect the interests and rights of the plan and of the plans participants and beneficiaries. In issuing regulations, the Secretary of Labor may exclude any assets of the insurer with respect to its operations, products, or services from treatment as plan assets. Further, the regulations would have to provide that plan assets do not include assets which are not treated as plan assets under present law because they are (1) assets of an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, or (2) assets of an insurer with respect to a guaranteed benefit policy issued by such insurer.

Under the Senate amendment, no person is liable under ERISA or the Code for conduct which occurred prior to the date which is 18 months following the effective date of the final regulations on the basis of a claim that the assets of the insurer (other than plan assets held in a separate account) constituted plan assets, except as otherwise provided by the Secretary of Labor in order to prevent avoidance of the guidance in the regulations or as provided in an action brought by the Secretary of Labor under ERISA's enforcement provisions for a breach of fiduciary responsibility which would also constitute a violation of Federal criminal law or constitute a felony under applicable State law.[39]

The Senate amendment does not preclude the application of any Federal criminal law.

Effective date.—The provision generally would be effective on January 1, 1975. However, the provision would not apply to any civil action commenced before January 7, 1995.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment with the following modifications.

Proposed regulations need not be issued by the Secretary of Labor until June 30, 1997. Such proposed regulations will be subject to public notice and comment until September 30, 1997. Final regulations need not be issued until December 31, 1997.

Such regulations will only apply with respect to a policy issued by an insurer on or before December 31, 1998. In the case of such a policy, the regulations will take effect at the end of the 18 month period following the date such regulations become final. New policies issued after December 31, 1998, will be subject to the fiduciary obligations under ERISA.

In issuing regulations, the Secretary of Labor must ensure that such regulations protect the interests and rights of the plan and of its participants and beneficiaries as opposed to ensuring that such regulations are designed to protect the interests and rights of the plan and of its participants and beneficiaries.

Under the conference agreement, in connection with any policy (other than a guaranteed benefit policy) issued by an insurer to

[36] As with the QJSA, this benefit would be the actuarial equivalent of a single life annuity for the life of the participant.

[37] Interpretive Bulletin 1975–2, 29 CFR section 2509.75–2(b) (1992). The term ''general account'' refers to all assets of an insurance company which are not legally segregated and allocated to separate accounts. The assets in a general account are derived from all classes of business and support the insurer's obligations on an unsegregated basis, with no particular assets being specifically committed to meet the obligations under any particular contract or policy.

[38] *John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company* v. *Harris Trust and Savings Bank*, 510 U.S. 86 (1993).

[39] The Senate amendment provides that the term policy includes a contract.

or for the benefit of an employee benefit plan, the regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor must require (1) that a plan fiduciary totally independent of the insurer authorize the purchase of such policy (unless it is the purchase of a life insurance, health insurance, or annuity contract exempt from ERISA's prohibited transaction rules); (2) that after the date final regulations are issued the insurer provide periodic reports to the policyholder disclosing the method by which any income or expenses of the insurer's general account are allocated to the policy and disclosing the actual return to the plan under the policy and such other financial information the Secretary may deem appropriate; and (3) that the insurer disclose to the plan fiduciary the extent to which alternative arrangements supported by assets of separate accounts of the insurer are available, whether there is a right under the policy to transfer funds to a separate account and the terms governing any such right, and the extent to which support by assets of the insurer's general account and support by assets of separate accounts of the insurer might pose differing risks to the plan; and (4) that the insurer must manage general account assets with the level of care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent man acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims, taking into account all obligations supported by such enterprise.

Under the Conference agreement, compliance by the insurer with all the requirements of the regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor will be deemed compliance by such insurer with ERISA's fiduciary duties, prohibited transactions, and limitations on holding employer securities and employer real property provisions (ERISA secs. 404, 406, and 407).

25. CHURCH PENSION PLAN SIMPLIFICATION

(Secs. 1462–1464 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general, a church plan is a plan established and maintained for employees (or their beneficiaries) by a church or a church convention or association of churches that is exempt from tax (sec. 414(e)). Church plans include plans maintained by an organization, whether a corporation or otherwise, that has as its principal purpose or function the administration or funding of a plan or program for providing retirement or welfare benefits for the employees of the church or convention or association of churches. Employees of a church include any minister, regardless of the source of his or her compensation, and an employee of an organization which is exempt from tax and which is controlled by or associated with a church or a convention or association of churches.[40]

Plans maintained by churches and certain church-controlled organizations are exempt from certain of the requirements applicable to pension plans under the Code pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (as amended) (''ERISA''). For example, such plans are not subject to ERISA's vesting, coverage, and funding requirements. In some cases, such plans are subject to provisions in effect before the enactment of ERISA. Under the rules in effect before ERISA, a plan cannot discriminate in favor of officers, shareholder, persons whose principal duties consist in supervising the work of other employees, or highly compensated employees. Church plans may elect to waive the exemption from the qualification rules (sec. 410(d)). Electing plans become subject to all the tax Code (sec. 401(a)) qualification requirements, Title I of ERISA, the excise tax on prohibited transactions, and participation in the pension plan termination insurance program administered by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

Certain eligible employers may maintain tax-sheltered annuity plans (sec. 403(b)). These plans provide tax-deferred retirement savings for employees of public education institutions and employees of certain tax-exempt organizations (including churches and certain organizations associated with churches). In addition to tax-sheltered annuities, alternative funding mechanisms that provide similar tax benefits include church-maintained retirement income accounts (sec. 403(b)(9)).

For purposes of determining an employee's investment in the contract under the rules relating to taxation of annuities, amounts contributed by the employer are included as investment in the contract, but only to the extent that such amounts were includible in the gross income of the employee or, if such amounts had been paid directly to the employee, would not have been includible in income. However, amounts contributed by the employer which, if they had been paid directly to the employee, would have been excludable under section 911 are not treated as investment in the contract, except to the extent attributable to services performed before January 1, 1963.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment allows self-employed ministers to participate in a church plan. For purposes of the definition of a church plan, a self-employed minister is treated as his or her own employer and as if the employer were a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3). The earned income of the self-employed minister is treated as his or her compensation. Self-employed ministers are able to deduct their contributions.

In addition, ministers employed by an organization other than a church are treated as if employed by a church. Thus, such ministers can also participate in a church plan.

The Senate amendment provides that if a minister is employed by an employer that is not eligible to maintain a church plan, the minister is not taken into account by that employer in applying nondiscrimination rules.

The Senate amendment permits retirement income accounts to be established for self-employed minister.

The Senate amendment provides that church plans subject to the pre-ERISA nondiscrimination rules are to apply the same definition of highly compensated employee as other pension plans, rather than the pre-ERISA rule relating to employees who are officers, shareholders, persons whose principal duties consist of supervising the work of other employees or highly compensated employees.

The Senate amendment provides that the Secretary of the Treasury may develop safe harbor rules for church plans under the applicable coverage and nondiscrimination rules.

The Senate amendment provides that, in the case of foreign missionaries, amounts contributed to a plan by the employer are investment in the contract even though the amounts, if paid directly to the employee would have been excludable under section 911.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment with technical modifications.

26. INCREASE IN MULTIEMPLOYER PLAN BENEFITS GUARANTEED

(Sec. 1465 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (''PBGC'') guarantees benefits of workers under multiemployer plans. The monthly guarantee is equal to the participant's years of service multiplied by the sum of (1) 100 percent of the first $5 of the monthly benefit accrual rate, and (2) 75 percent of the next $15 of the accrual rate.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment generally adjusts the amount guaranteed under multiemployer plans to account for changes in the Social Security wage index since 1980. Under the Senate amendment, the monthly benefit guaranteed by the PBGC is generally increased to the participant's years of service multiplied by the sum of (1) 100 percent of the first $11 of the monthly benefit accrual rate, and (2) 75 percent of the next $33 of the accrual rate. The maximum annual guarantee for a retiree with 30 years of service is generally increased to $12,870.

The increase in guaranteed multiemployer plan benefits only applies in the case of multiemployer plans which first receive financial assistance from the PBGC during the applicable period. The applicable period is the period beginning on the date of enactment and ending on the last day of the first fiscal year in which the surplus in the PBGC's multiemployer insurance program is less than half of the surplus for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995, as reflected in the Statement of Financial Condition in the PBGC's 1995 Annual Report. In determining the surplus in the multiemployer insurance program in any fiscal year, the PBGC is required to use the same actuarial assumptions that it used in determining the surplus for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995. If the PBGC surplus declines by more than 50 percent, benefits of participants in multiemployer plans that first received financial assistance from the PBGC during the applicable period would continue to be guaranteed at the increased level; however, other benefits would be guaranteed at the present-law levels. The guaranteed benefit level would not automatically increase if the surplus increases.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

27. WAIVER OF EXCISE TAX ON FAILURE TO PAY LIQUIDITY SHORTFALL

(Sec. 1466 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A provision in the Retirement Protection Act of 1994, enacted as part of the implementing legislation for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (''GATT''), generally requires certain underfunded single-employer defined benefit plans to make quarterly contributions sufficient to maintain liquid plan assets, i.e., cash and marketable securities, at an amount approximately equal to three times the total trust disbursements for the preceding 12-month period. This liquidity requirement only applies to underfunded single-employer defined benefit

[40] With respect to certain provisions (e.g., the exemption for church plans from nondiscrimination requirements applicable to tax-sheltered annuities), the more limited definition of church under the employment tax rules applies (secs. 3121(w)(3)(A) and (B)).

plans (other than small plans)[41] that (1) are required to make quarterly installments of their estimated minimum funding contribution for the plan year, and (2) have a liquidity shortfall for any quarter during the plan year.

A plan has a liquidity shortfall if its liquid assets as of the last day of the quarter are less than the base amount for the quarter. Liquid assets are cash, marketable securities and such other assets as specified by the Secretary. The base amount for the quarter is an amount equal to the product of three times the adjusted disbursements from the plan for the 12 months ending on the last day of the last month preceding the quarterly installment due date. If the base amount exceeds the product of two times the sum of adjusted disbursements for the 36 months ending on the last day of the last month preceding the quarterly installment due date, and an enrolled actuary certifies to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the excess is the result of nonrecurring circumstances, such nonrecurring circumstances are not included in the base amount. For purposes of determining the base amount, adjusted disbursements mean the amount of all disbursements from the plan's trust, including purchases of annuities, payments of single sums, other benefit payments, and administrative expenses reduced by the product of the plan's funded current liability percentage for the plan year and the sum of the purchases of annuities, payments of single sums, and such other disbursements as the Secretary provides in regulations.

The amount of the required quarterly installment for defined benefit plans that have a liquidity shortfall for any quarter is the greater of the quarterly installment or the liquidity shortfall. The amount of the liquidity shortfall must be paid in the form of liquid assets. It may not be paid by the application of credit balances in the funding standard account. The amount of any liquidity shortfall payment when added to prior installments for the plan year cannot exceed the amount necessary to increase the funded current liability percentage of the plan to 100 percent taking into account the expected increase in current liability due to benefits accruing during the plan year.

If a liquidity shortfall payment is not made, then the plan sponsor is subject to a nondeductible excise tax equal to 10 percent of the amount of the outstanding liquidity shortfall. A liquidity shortfall payment is no longer considered outstanding on the earlier of (1) the last day of a later quarter for which the plan does not have a liquidity shortfall or (2) the date on which the liquidity shortfall for a later quarter is timely paid. If the liquidity shortfall remains outstanding after four quarters, the excise tax increases to 100 percent.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment gives the Secretary authority to waive all or part of the excise tax imposed for a failure to make a liquidity shortfall payment if the plan sponsor establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the liquidity shortfall was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and reasonable steps have been taken to remedy such shortfall.

Effective date.—The provision is effective as if included in GATT.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

[41] A plan is a small plan if it had 100 or fewer participants on each day during the plan year (as determined in Code sec. 412(l)(6)).

28. TREATMENT OF MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS UNDER SECTION 415

(Sec. 1467 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Present law imposes limits on contributions and benefits under qualified plans based on the type of plan. In the case of defined benefit pension plans, the limit on the annual retirement benefit is the lesser of (1) 100 percent of compensation or (2) $120,000 (indexed for inflation). The dollar limit is reduced in the case of early retirement or if the employee has less than 10 years of plan participation.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment makes the following modifications to the limits on contributions and benefits as applied to multiemployer plans:

(1) the 100 percent of compensation limitation on defined benefit pension plan benefits does not apply; and

(2) the early retirement reduction and the 10-year phase-in of the defined benefit pension plan dollar limit does not apply to certain disability and survivor benefits.

Effective date.—The provision applies to multiemployer plans for years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

29. PAYMENT OF LUMP-SUM CREDIT FOR FORMER SPOUSES OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

(Sec. 1468 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

When a Federal employee or former Federal employee dies, any contribution to his or her credit in the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund must be paid to whomever the employee designated to receive that contribution. If no designation was made, there is a statutory order of precedence beginning with the surviving spouse. There is no provision in law that permits a domestic relations order to interfere with these arrangements. Thus, if an employee agreed in a divorce settlement to designate a former spouse to receive these funds, and later designated another individual, present law would require payment of the funds to the other individual. By contrast, under present law, an employee's annuity and survivor benefits are subject to the provisions of a domestic relations order.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The payment of contributions to the employee's credit in the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund is subject to the provisions of a domestic relations order, in the same way as the employee's annuity and survivor benefits. Thus, a domestic relations order on file with the Office of Personnel Management supersedes any designation of beneficiary by the employee.

Effective date.—The provision is effective with respect to deaths occurring after the 90th day after the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment.

30. DATE FOR ADOPTION OF PLAN AMENDMENTS

(Sec. 1459 of the House bill and sec. 1469 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Plan amendments to reflect amendments to the law generally must be made by the time prescribed by law for filing the income tax return of the employer for the employer's taxable year in which the change in law occurs.

House bill

The House bill generally provides that any amendments to a plan or annuity contract required by the pension simplification amendments would not be required to be made before the first plan year beginning on or after January 1, 1997. The date for amendments is extended to the first plan year beginning on or after January 1, 1999, in the case of a governmental plan.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

Under the conference agreement, any amendments to a plan or annuity contract required by the pension simplification amendments would not be required to be made before the first plan year beginning on or after January 1, 1998. The date for amendments is extended to the first plan year beginning on or after January 1, 2000, in the case of a governmental plan.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

IV. FOREIGN SIMPLIFICATION PROVISION

1. REPEAL OF EXCESS PASSIVE ASSETS PROVISION

(Sec. 1501 of the House bill.)

Present law

Under the rules of subpart F (secs. 951–964), certain 10-percent U.S. shareholders of a controlled foreign corporation (CFC) are required to include in income currently for U.S. tax purposes certain earnings of the CFC, whether or not such earnings are actually distributed currently to the shareholders. The 10-percent U.S. shareholders of a CFC are subject to current U.S. tax on their shares of certain income earned by the CFC (referred to as ''subpart F income''). The 10-percent U.S. shareholders are also subject to current U.S. tax on their shares of the CFC's earnings to the extent such earnings are invested by the CFC in certain U.S. property.

In addition to these current inclusion rules, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 enacted section 956A, which applies another current inclusion rule to U.S. shareholders of a CFC. Section 956A requires the 10-percent U.S. shareholder of a CFC to include in income currently their shares of the CFC's earnings to the extent such earnings are invested by the CFC in excess passive assets. A CFC generally is treated as having excess passive assets if the average of the amounts of its passive assets exceeds 25 percent of the average of the amounts of its total assets; this calculation requires a quarterly determination of the CFC's passive assets and total assets.

House bill

The House bill repeals section 956A.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 1996, and taxable years of U.S. shareholders with or within which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

V. OTHER PROVISIONS

1. EXEMPT ALASKA FROM DIESEL DYEING REQUIREMENT WHILE ALASKA IS EXEMPT FROM SIMILAR CLEAN AIR ACT DYEING REQUIREMENT

(Sec. 1801 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

An excise tax totaling 24.3 cents per gallon is imposed on diesel fuel. In the case of fuel used in highway transportation, 20 cents per gallon is dedicated to the Highway Trust Fund. The remaining portion of this tax is imposed on transportation generally and is retained in the General Fund.

The diesel fuel tax is imposed on removal of the fuel from a pipeline or barge terminal facility (i.e., at the ''terminal rack''). Present law provides that tax is imposed on all diesel fuel removed from terminal facilities unless the fuel is destined for a nontaxable use and is indelibly dyed pursuant to Treasury Department regulations.

In general, the diesel fuel tax does not apply to non-transportation uses of the fuel. A specific exemption is provided for off-highway business uses (e.g., use as fuel powering off-highway equipment). Use as heating oil also is exempt. (Most fuel commonly referred to a heating oil is diesel fuel.) The tax also does not apply to fuel used on a farm for farming purposes or by State and local governments, to exported fuels, and to fuel used in commercial shipping. Fuel used by intercity buses and trains is partially exempt from the diesel fuel tax.

A similar dyeing regime exists for diesel fuel under the Clean Air Act. That Act prohibits the use on highways, of diesel fuel with a sulfur content exceeding prescribed levels. This ''high sulfur'' diesel fuel is required to be dyed by the EPA. The State of Alaska generally was exempted from the Clean Air Act, but not the excise tax, dyeing regime for three years (until October 1, 1996) (urban areas) or permanently (remote areas).

House bill

No provision

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides that diesel fuel sold in the State of Alaska will be exempt from the diesel dyeing requirement during the period when that State is exempt from the Clean Air Act dyeing requirements. Thus, subject to a certification procedure to be developed by the Treasury Department, undyed diesel fuel which is destined for a nontaxable use may be removed from terminals without payment of tax through September 30, 1996 (urban areas, unless extended by the Environmental Protection Agency) or permanently (remote areas).

Effective date.—Effective beginning with the first calendar quarter after the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment

2. APPLICATION OF COMMON PAYMASTER RULES TO CERTAIN AGENCY ACCOUNTS AT STATE UNIVERSITIES

(Sec. 1802 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general, the OASDI portion of FICA taxes are payable with respect to employee remuneration not in excess of a contribution base. If an employee works for more than one employer during a year, these taxes are payable for each employer up to the contribution base. Under the common paymaster rule if an individual works for two or more related corporations, the remuneration may be treated as being from one employer and therefore taxable for one contribution base.

Section 125 of Social Security Amendments of 1983 provided a common paymaster rule for certain State universities that employ health care professionals as faculty members at a medical school and at a tax-exempt faculty practice plan. This rule does not explicitly apply to situations where compensation is made through a university agency account and not directly by a medical school faculty practice plan.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment establishes a common paymaster rule in cases where: (1) a State or State university provides remuneration pursuant to a single contract of employment to certain health care professionals as members of its medical school faculty; and (2) as agency account at such institution also provides remuneration to such health care professionals. The agency account must receive funds for the remuneration from a faculty practice plan described in section 501(c)(3) of the Code. The payments may only be distributed by the agency account to faculty members who render patient care at the medical school. The faculty members receiving payments must comprise at least 30 percent of the membership of the faculty practice plan.

Effective date.—Remuneration paid after December 31, 1996. It is intended that, with respect to years before the effective date, the Secretary apply present law in a manner consistent with the proposal.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement includes the Senate amendment provision.

3. MODIFICATIONS TO EXCISE TAX ON OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS

a. Exempt imported recycled halons from the excise tax on ozone-depleting chemicals

(Sec. 1803(a) of the bill.)

Present law

An excise tax is imposed on the sale or use by the manufacturer or importer of certain ozone-depleting chemicals (Code sec. 4681). The amount of tax generally is determined by multiplying the base tax amount applicable for the calendar year by an ozone-depleting factor assigned to each taxable chemical. The base tax amount is $5.80 per pound in 1996 and will increase by 45 cents per pound per year thereafter. The ozone-depleting factors for taxable halons are 3 for halon-1211, 10 for halon-1301, and 6 for halon-2402.

Taxable chemicals that are recovered and recycled within the United States are exempt from tax.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment extends the exemption from tax for domestically recovered and recycled ozone-depleting chemicals to imported recycled halons. The exemption for imported recycled halons applies only to such chemicals imported from countries that are signatories to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for chemicals imported after December 31, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment with a modification to the effective date.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for halon-1301 and halon-2402 imported after December 31, 1996, and for halon-1211 imported after December 31, 1997.

b. Exempt chemicals used in metered-dose inhalers from the excise tax on ozone-depleting chemicals

(Sec. 1803(b) of the bill.)

Present law

An excise tax is imposed on the sale or use by the manufacturer or importer of certain ozone-depleting chemicals (Code sec. 4681). The amount of tax generally is determined by multiplying the base tax amount applicable for the calendar year by an ozone-depleting factor assigned to each taxable chemical. The base tax amount is $5.80 per pound in 1996 and will increase by 45 cents per pound per year thereafter.

A reduced rate of tax of $1.67 per pound applies to chemicals used as propellants in metered-dose inhalers (sec. 4682(g)(4)).

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment exempts chemicals used as propellants in metered-dose inhalers from the excise tax on ozone-depleting chemicals.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for chemicals sold or used seven days after the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

4. TAX-EXEMPT BONDS FOR THE SALE OF THE ALASKA POWER ADMINISTRATION FACILITY

(Sec. 1804 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Interest on State and local government bonds to provide financing to private parties (private activity bonds) is taxable unless an exception is provided in the Internal Revenue Code. One such exception relates to the financing of facilities for the furnishing of electricity and gas.

Most private activity bonds are subject to annual State volume limits of the greater of $50 per resident of the State or $150 million. Additionally, persons acquiring existing property financed with most private activity bonds must satisfy a rehabilitation requirement as a condition of the financing.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Provides an exception from the general rehabilitation requirement for private activity bonds used to acquire existing property for certain bonds to finance the acquisition of the Snettisham hydroelectric project for the Alaska Power Administration pursuant to legislation that has been enacted authorizing that transaction. These bonds are subject to the State of Alaska's private activity bond volume limit.

Effective date.—Bonds issued after the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

5. ALLOW BANK COMMON TRUST FUNDS TO TRANSFER ASSETS TO REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES WITHOUT TAXATION

(Sec. 1805 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Common trust funds

A common trust fund is a fund maintained by a bank exclusively for the collective investment and reinvestment of monies contributed by the bank in its capacity as a trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, or custodian of certain accounts and in conformity with rules and regulations of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or the Comptroller of the Currency pertaining to the collective investment of trust funds by national banks (sec. 584(a)).

The common trust fund is not subject to tax and is not treated as a corporation (sec. 584(b)). Each participant in a common trust fund includes his proportional share of common trust fund income, whether or not the

income is distributed or distributable (sec. 584(c)).

No gain or loss is realized by the fund upon admission or withdrawal of a participant. Participants generally treat their admission to the fund as the purchase of an interest. Withdrawals from the fund generally are treated as the sale of an interest by the participant (sec. 584(e)).

Regulated investment companies (''RICs'')

A RIC also is treated as a conduit for Federal income tax purposes. Conduit treatment is accorded by allowing the RIC a deduction for dividend distributions to its shareholders. Present law is unclear as to the tax consequences when a common trust fund transfers its assets to one or more RICs.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

In general, the Senate amendment permits a common trust fund to transfer substantially all of its assets to one or more RICs without gain or loss being recognized by the fund or its participants. The fund must transfer its assets to the RICs solely in exchange for shares of the RICs, and the fund must then distribute the RIC shares to the fund's participants in exchange for the participants' interests in the fund.

The basis of any asset received by a RIC will be the basis of the asset in the hands of the fund prior to transfer (increased by the amount of gain recognized by reason of the rule regarding the assumption of liabilities). In addition, the basis of any RIC shares that are received by a fund participant will be an allocable portion of the participant's basis in the interests exchanged. If stock in more than one RIC is received in exchange for assets of a common trust fund, the basis of the shares in each RIC shall be determined by allocating the basis of common fund assets used in the exchange among the shares of each RIC received in the exchange on the basis of the respective fair market values of the RICs.

The tax-free transfer is not available to a common trust fund with assets that are not diversified under the requirements of section 368(a)(2)(F)(ii), except that the diversification test is modified so that Government securities are not to be included as securities of an issuer and are to be included in determining total assets for purposes of the 25- and 50-percent tests.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for transfers after December 31, 1995.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment. In order to qualify for the provision, the transfer by the common trust fund to the RIC must occur after December 31, 1995. The conferees intend that there is no requirement for qualification that the transfer of assets by the common trust fund to one or more RICs and the distribution of RIC shares to participants in the common trust fund be made contemporaneously or pursuant to a single plan.

6. TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAMS

(Sec. 1806 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In *Michigan* v. *United States*, 40 F.3d 817 (6th Cir. 1994), the Sixth Circuit held that the Michigan Education Trust, an entity created by the State of Michigan to operate a prepaid tuition payment program, is an integral part of the State, and, thus, the investment income realized by the Trust is not currently subject to Federal income tax. The Trust was established to receive advance payments of college tuition, invest the money, and ultimately make disbursements under a program that allows beneficiaries to attend any of the State's public colleges or universities without further tuition costs for a year or more (depending on the terms of the contract).

Section 115 of the Code provides that gross income does not include income derived from any public utility or the exercise of any essential governmental function and accruing to a State or any political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia.

Section 2501 imposes a Federal gift tax on certain transfers of property by gift. Section 2503(e) specifically excludes from gifts subject to tax under section 2501 any ''qualified transfer,'' which includes any amount paid on behalf of an individual as tuition to an educational institution (as described in sec. 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)) for the education or training of such individual.

On June 11, 1996, the Treasury Department issued final regulations under the original issue discount (''OID'') provisions of the Code (secs. 163(e) and 1271 through 1275), including regulations relating to debt instruments that provide for contingent payments (see TD 8674). These regulations specifically provide that they do not apply to contracts issued pursuant to State-sponsored prepaid tuition programs, whether or not the contracts are debt instruments. In addition, the IRS announced in Rev. Proc. 96–34 that it will not issue advance rulings or determination letters regarding State-sponsored prepaid tuition plans because issues that arise under such plans are being studied.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides tax-exempt status to ''qualified State tuition programs,'' meaning programs established and maintained by a State (or agency or instrumentality thereof) under which persons may (1) purchase tuition credits or certificates on behalf of a designated beneficiary that entitle the beneficiary to a waiver or payment of qualified higher education expenses of the beneficiary, or (2) make contributions to an account that is established for the sole purpose of meeting qualified higher education expenses of the designated beneficiary of the account. ''Qualified higher education expenses'' are defined at tuition, fees, books, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance at a college or university (or certain vocational schools). The Senate amendment specifically provides that, although a qualified State tuition program generally is exempt from Federal income tax, such a program is subject to the unrelated business income tax (UBIT).[42]

A qualified State tuition program is required to provide that purchases or contributions only be made in cash. Contributors and beneficiaries are not allowed to direct any investments made on their behalf by the program. The program is required to maintain a separate accounting for each designated beneficiary. A specified individual must be designated as the beneficiary at the commencement of participation in a qualified State tuition program (i.e., when contributions are first made to purchase an interest in such a program[43]), unless interests in such a program are purchased by a State or local government or a tax-exempt charity described in section 501(c)(3) as part of a scholarship program operated by such government or charity under which beneficiaries to be named in the future will receive such interests as scholarships. A transfer of credits (or other amounts) from one account benefiting one designated beneficiary to another account benefiting a different beneficiary will be considered a distribution (as will a change in the designated beneficiary of an interest in a qualified State tuition program) unless the beneficiaries are members of the same family.[44] Earnings on an account may be refunded to a contributor or beneficiary, but the State or instrumentality must impose a more than de minimis monetary penalty unless the refund is (1) used for qualified higher education expenses of the beneficiary, (2) made on account of the death or disability of the beneficiary,[45] or (3) made on account of a scholarship received by the designated beneficiary to the extent the amount refunded does not exceed the amount of the scholarship used for higher education expenses. A qualified State tuition program may not allow any interest in the program or any portion thereof to be used as security for a loan.

In addition, the Senate amendment provides that no amount shall be included in the gross income of a contributor to, or beneficiary of, a qualified State tuition program with respect to any distribution from, or earnings under, such program, except that (1) amounts distributed or educational benefits provided to a beneficiary (e.g., when the beneficiary attends college) will be included in the beneficiary's gross income (unless excludable under another Code section) to the extent such amount or the value of the educational benefits exceeds contributions made on behalf of the beneficiary, and (2) amounts distributed to a contributor (e.g., when a parent or other relative receives a refund) will be included in the contributor's gross income to the extent such amounts exceed contributions made by that person.[46]

The Senate amendment further provides that, for purposes of present-law section 2503(e), contributions made by an individual to a qualified State tuition program are treated as a qualified transfer and, thus, not subject to Federal gift tax.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for taxable years ending after the date of enactment. The bill also includes a transition rule providing that if (1) a State maintains (on the date of enactment) a program under which persons may purchase tuition credits on behalf of, or make contributions for educational expenses of, a designated beneficiary, and (2) such program meets the requirements of a qualified State tuition program before the later of (a) one year after the date of enactment, or (b) the first day of the first calendar quarter after the close of

[42] The bill specifically provides that an interest in a qualified State tuition program will not be treated as debt for purposes of the UBIT debt-financed property rules (sec. 514). Consequently, a qualified State tuition program's investment income will not constitute debt-financed property income subject to the UBIT merely because the program accepts contributions and is obligated to pay out (or refund) such contributions and certain earnings thereon to designated beneficiaries or to contributors. However, investment income of a qualified State tuition program could be subject to the UBIT as debt-financed property income to the extent the program acquires indebtedness when investing the contributions made on behalf of designated beneficiaries.

[43] The bill allows for a change in designated beneficiaries, so long as the new beneficiary is a member of the family of the old beneficiary.

[44] For this purpose, the term ''member of the family'' is defined under present-law section 2032A(e)(2).

[45] Thus, a State need not impose a monetary penalty when a refund is made from a qualified State tuition program in order to cover medical expenses incurred by (or on behalf of) a designated beneficiary who suffers a disabling illness (and who could be any member of the same family of the originally designated beneficiary).

[46] Specifically, the bill provides that any distribution under a qualified State tuition program shall be includible in the gross income of the distributee in the same manner as provided under present-law section 72 to the extent not excluded from gross income under any other provision of the Code.

the first regular session of the State legislature that begins after the date of enactment, then the provisions of the bill will apply to contributions (and earnings allocable thereto) made before the date the program meets the requirements of a qualified State tuition program, without regard to whether the requirements of a qualified State tuition program are satisfied with respect to such contributions and earnings (e.g., even if the interest in the tuition or educational savings program covers not only qualified higher education expenses but also room and board expenses).

Conference agreement

The conference agreement generally follows the Senate amendment, with the following modifications:

(1) A program will not be treated as a qualified State tuition program unless it provides adequate safeguards to prevent contributions on behalf of a designated beneficiary in excess of those necessary to provide for the qualified higher education expenses of the beneficiary.

(2) Contributions made to a qualified State tuition program will be treated as incomplete gifts for Federal gift tax purposes. Thus, any Federal gift tax consequences will be determined at the time that a distribution is made from an account under the program.

(3) The waiver (or payment) of qualified higher education expenses of a designated beneficiary by (or to) an educational institution under a qualified State tuition program will be treated as a qualified transfer for purposes of present-law section 2503(e).[47]

(4) Amounts contributed to a qualified State tuition program (and earnings thereon) will be included in the contributor's estate for Federal estate tax purposes in the event that the contributor dies before such amounts are distributed under the program.

The conference agreement provides that any distribution under a qualified State tuition program shall be includible in the gross income of the distributee in the manner as provided under section 72 to the extent not excluded from gross income under any other provision of the Internal Revenue Code. Thus, the conferees understand that if matching-grant amounts are distributed to (or on behalf of) a beneficiary as part of a qualified State tuition program, then such matching-grant amounts still may be excluded from the gross income of the beneficiary as a scholarship under present-law section 117.

Effective date.—The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

7. ADOPTION ASSISTANCE

(Sec. 101 of H.R. 3286.)

Present law

Present law does not provide a tax credit for adoption expenses. Also, present law does not provide an exclusion from gross income for employer-provided adoption assistance. The Federal Adoption Assistance program (a Federal outlay program) provides financial assistance for the adoption of certain special needs children. In general, a special needs child is defined as a child who (1) according to a State determination, could not or should not be returned to the home of the birth parents and (2) on account of a specific factor or condition (such as ethnic background, age, membership in a minority or sibling group, medical condition, or physical, mental or emotional handicap), could not reasonably be expected to be adopted unless adoption assistance is provided. Specifically, the program provides assistance for adoption expenses for those special needs children receiving Federally assisted adoption assistance payments as well as special needs children in private and State-funded programs. The maximum Federal reimbursement is $1,000 per special needs child. Reimbursable expenses include those nonrecurring costs directly associated with the adoption process such as legal costs, social service review, and transportation costs.

House bill

Tax credit

No provision. However, H.R. 3286 provides taxpayers with a maximum nonrefundable credit against income tax liability of $5,000 per child for qualified adoption expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer. Any unused adoption credit may be carried forward by the taxpayer for up to five years. Qualified adoption expenses are reasonable and necessary adoption fees, court costs, attorneys' fees and other expenses that are directly related to the legal adoption of an eligible child. In the case of an international adoption, the credit is not available unless the adoption is finalized. An eligible child is an individual (1) who has not attained age 18 as of the time of the adoption, or (2) who is physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself or herself. No credit is allowed for expenses incurred (1) in violation of State or Federal law, (2) in carrying out any surrogate parenting arrangement, or (3) in connection with the adoption of a child of the taxpayer's spouse. The credit is phased out ratably for taxpayers with modified adjusted gross income (AGI) above $75,000, and is fully phased out at $115,000 of modified AGI.

The credit is not allowed for any expenses for which a grant is received under any Federal, State, or local program. This limit, however, does not apply in the case of special needs adoptions.

Exclusion from income

The proposal provides a maximum $5,000 exclusion from the gross income of an employee for specified certain adoption expenses paid by the employer. The $5,000 limit is a per child limit, not an annual limitation. The exclusion is phased out ratably for taxpayers with modified AGI above $75,000 and is fully phased out at $115,000 of modified AGI.

No credit is allowed for adoption expenses paid or reimbursed under an adoption assistance program.

Effective date

The House bill is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996.

Senate amendment

Tax credit

The Senate amendment to H.R. 3286 is the same as the House bill, with three changes:

(1) The maximum credit is increased from $5,000 to $6,000 in the case of special needs adoptions.

(2) The credit for non-special needs adoptions is repealed for expenses paid or incurred after December 31, 2000.

(3) No credit is allowed in the case of special needs adoptions for expenses for which a grant is received under any Federal, State or local program.

Exclusion from income

The Senate amendment to H.R. 3286 is the same as the House bill except:

(1) The maximum exclusion is increased from $5,000 to $6,000 in the case of special needs adoptions.

(2) The exclusion is repealed after December 31, 2000.

Effective date

The Senate amendment to H.R. 3286 is the same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

Tax credit

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment provision of H.R. 3286 with four modifications:

(1) The repeal of the credit for non-special needs adoptions is delayed for one year. Therefore, the credit for non-special needs adoptions is not available for expenses paid or incurred after December 31, 2001.

(2) Special needs foreign adoptions are limited to a maximum credit of $5,000 (rather than $6,000) for qualified adoption expenses until December 31, 2001, at which time the credit for special needs foreign adoptions is also repealed.

(3) The taxpayer is required to provide available information about the name, age, and taxpayer identification number of each adopted child.

(4) Otherwise, qualified adoption expenses paid in one taxable year are not taken into account for purposes of the credit until the next taxable year unless the expenses are incurred in the year the adoption becomes final.

Exclusion from income

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment provision of H.R. 3286 with three modifications;

(1) The repeal of the exclusion is delayed for one year. Therefore, the exclusion is not available for expenses paid or incurred after December 31, 2001.

(2) Special needs foreign adoptions are limited to a maximum exclusion of $5,000 (rather than $6,000) for qualified adoption expenses until December 31, 2001, at which time the exclusion is repealed.

(3) The taxpayer is required to provide available information about the name, age, and taxpayer identification number of each adopted child.

Taxpayer identification numbers

The conference committee is concerned that problems may arise in processing tax returns of adopting parents because of unavoidable delays involved in obtaining a social security number of a child who is being adopted. The conference understands that the Internal Revenue Service recognizes these concerns and is committed to working with the Congress to develop as soon as possible an administrative solution that minimizes the burdens imposed on adopting parents while balancing processing and potential compliance considerations.

Effective date

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

The conferees wish to clarify the operation of the effective date by way of an example. Suppose that, in the course of attempting to adopt a child, a taxpayer incurs $1,000 in qualified adoption expenses in November, 1996, and an additional $3,000 in qualified adoption expenses in February, 1997, when the adoption becomes final. The taxpayer is entitled to claim a credit for tax year 1997 only with respect to the $3,000 of qualified adoption expenses in February, 1997. The taxpayer is never entitled to claim a credit with respect to the $1,000 in qualified adoption expenses in November, 1996, because those expenses were incurred prior to the effective date of this provision.

8. SIX-MONTH DELAY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER SYSTEM FOR COLLECTION OF CERTAIN TAXES

Present law

Employers are required to withhold income taxes and FICA taxes from wages paid to

[47] In this regard, the conferees intend that if a qualified State tuition program issues a check in the names of both the designated beneficiary and an educational institution at which the beneficiary incurs (or will incur) qualified higher education expenses, then the issuance of the check will be considered a payment of qualified higher education expenses to an educational institution if the check (after endorsement by the beneficiary) is deposited in the institution's bank account.

their employees. Employers also are liable for their portion of FICA taxes, excise taxes, and estimated payments of their corporate income tax liability.

The Code requires the development and implementation of an electronic fund transfer system to remit these taxes and convey deposit information directly to the Treasury (Code sec. 6302(h)). The Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (''EFTPS'') was developed by Treasury in response to this requirement.[48] Employers must enroll with one of two private contractors hired by the Treasury. After enrollment, employers generally initiate deposits either by telephone or by computer.

The new system is phased in over a period of years by increasing each year the percentage of total taxes subject to the new EFTPS system. For fiscal year 1994, 3 percent of the total taxes are required to be made by electronic fund transfer. These percentages increased gradually for fiscal years 1995 and 1996. For fiscal year 1996, the percentage was 20.1 percent (30 percent for excise taxes and corporate estimated tax payments). For fiscal year 1997, these percentages increased significantly, to 58.3 percent (60 percent for excise taxes and corporate estimated tax payments). The specific implementation method required to achieve the target percentages is set forth in Treasury regulations. Implementation began with the largest depositors. Treasury has implemented the 1997 percentages by requiring that all employers who deposit more than $50,000 in 1995 must begin using EFTPS by January 1, 1997.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conferees are concerned that the initial mailing by IRS to employers that informed them of the 1997 requirements confused many of these employers. The conferees believe that it is necessary to provide additional time prior to implementation of the 1997 requirements so that employers may be better informed about their responsibilities. Accordingly, the conference agreement provides that the increase in the required percentages for fiscal year 1997 (which, pursuant to Treasury regulations, was to take effect on January 1, 1997) shall not take effect until July 1, 1997.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

VI. REVENUE OFFSETS

1. MODIFICATIONS OF THE PUERTO RICO AND POSSESSION TAX CREDIT

(Sec. 1601 of the bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Certain domestic corporations with business operations in the U.S. possessions (including, for this purpose, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) may elect the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit which generally eliminates the U.S. tax on certain income related to their operations in the possessions. In contrast to the foreign tax credit, the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit is a ''tax sparing'' credit. That is, the credit is granted whether or not the electing corporation pays income tax to the possession. Income eligible for the credit under this provision falls into two broad categories: (1) possession business income, which is derived from the active conduct of a trade or business within a U.S. possession or from the sale or exchange of substantially all of the assets that were used in such a trade or business; and (2) qualified possession source investment income (''QPSII''), which is attributable to the investment in the possession or in certain Caribbean Basin countries of funds derived from the active conduct of a possession business.

In order to qualify for the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit for a taxable year, a domestic corporation must satisfy two conditions. First, the corporation must derive at least 80 percent of it gross income for the three-year period immediately preceding the close of the taxable year from sources within a possession. Second, the corporation must derive at least 75 percent of its gross income for that same period from the active conduct of a possession business.

A domestic corporation that has elected the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit and that satisfies these two conditions for a taxable year generally is entitled to a credit based on the U.S. tax attributable to the sum of the taxpayer's possession business income and its QPSII. However, the amount of the credit attributable to possession business income is subject to the limitations enacted by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993. Under the economic activity limit, the amount of the credit with respect to such income cannot exceed an amount equal to the sum of (i) 60 percent of the taxpayer's qualifying wage and fringe benefit expenses, (ii) specified percentages of the taxpayer's depreciation allowances with respect to qualifying tangible property, and (iii) in certain cases, the taxpayer's qualifying possession income taxes. The credit calculated under the economic activity limit is referred to herein as the ''wage credit.'' In the alternative, the taxpayer may elect to apply a limit equal to the applicable percentage of the credit that would otherwise be allowable with respect to possession business income; the applicable percentage is phased down to 50 percent for 1995, 45 percent for 1997, and 40 percent for 1998 and thereafter. The credit calculated under the applicable percentage limit is referred to herein as the ''income credit.'' The amount of the Puerto Rico and possession tax

House bill

In general.—The House bill generally repeals the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995. However, the House bill provides grandfather rules under which a corporation that is an existing credit claimant would be eligible to claim credits for a transition period. A special transition rule applies to the credit attributable to operations in Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit applies only to a corporation that qualifies as an existing credit claimant (as defined below). The determination of whether a corporation is an existing credit claimant is made separately for each possession. A corporation that is an existing credit claimant with respect to a possession is entitled to the credit for income from such possession for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, subject to the limitations described below. The credit, subject to such limitations, is computed separately for each possession with respect to which the corporation is an existing credit claimant.

The Puerto Rico and possession tax credit attributable to QPSII is eliminated for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995, the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit is available only with respect to possession business income. The computation of the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit attributable to possession business income during the grandfather period depends upon whether the corporation is using the economic activity limit or the applicable percentage limit.

Wage credit.—For corporations that are existing credit claimants with respect to a possession and that use the wage credit method, the possession tax credit attributable to business income from the possession (determined under the wage credit method) continues to be determined as under present law for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995 and before January 1, 2002. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2001 and before January 1, 2006, the corporation's possession business income that is eligible for the wage credit is subject to a cap computed as described below. For taxable years beginning in 2006 and thereafter, the credit attributable to possession business income (determined under the wage credit method) is eliminated.

The House bill adds to the Code a new section which provides a credit determined under the wage credit method for business income from Puerto Rico. Such credit is computed under the rules described above with respect to the possession tax credit determined under the wage credit method. Such section applies for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995 and before January 1, 2006.

Income credit.—For corporations that are existing credit claimants with respect to a possession and that elected to use the income credit method and not to use the wage credit method, the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit attributable to business income from the possession continues to be determined as under present law for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995 and before January 1, 1998. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 1997 and before January 1, 2006, the corporation's possession business income tax is eligible for the credit is subject to a cap computed as described below. For taxable years beginning in 2006 and thereafter, the credit attributable to possession business income (determined under the income credit method) is eliminated.

A corporation that had elected to use the income credit method is permitted to revoke that election under present law. Under the House bill, such a revocation is required to be made not later than with respect to the first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1996; such revocation, if made, applies to such taxable year and to all subsequent taxable years. Accordingly, a corporation that had an election in effect to use the income credit method could revoke such election effective for its taxable year beginning in 1997 and thereafter; such corporation would continue to use the income credit method for its taxable year beginning in 1996 and would use the wage credit method for its taxable year beginning in 1997 and thereafter.

Computation of income cap.—The cap on a corporation's possession business income that is eligible for the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit is computed based on the corporation's possession business income for the base period years (''average adjusted base period possession business income''). Average adjusted base period possession business income is the average of the adjusted possession business income for each of the corporation's base period years. For the purpose of this computation, the corporation's possession business income for a base period year is adjusted by an inflation factor that reflects inflation from such year to 1995.

[48] Treasury had earlier developed TAXLINK as the prototype for EFTPS. TAXLINK has been operational for several years; EFTPS is currently becoming operational. Employers currently using TAXLINK will ultimately be required to participate in EFTPS.

In addition, as a proxy for real growth in income throughout the base period, the inflation factor is increased by 5 percentage points compounded for each year from such year to the corporation's first taxable year beginning on or after October 14, 1995.

The corporation's base period years generally are three of the corporation's five most recent years ending before October 14, 1995, determined by disregarding the taxable years in which the adjusted possession business incomes were highest and lowest. For purposes of this computation, only years in which the corporation had significant possession business income are taken into account. A corporation is considered to have significant possession business income for a taxable year if such income exceeds two percent of the corporation's possession business income for the each of the six taxable years ending with the first taxable year ending on or after October 14, 1995. If the corporation has significant possession business income for only four of the five most recent taxable years ending before October 14, 1995, the base period years are determined by disregarding the year in which the corporation's possession business income was lowest. If the corporation has significant possession business income for three years or fewer of such five years, then the base period years are all such years. If there is no year of such five taxable years in which the corporation has significant possession business income, then the corporation is permitted to use as its base period its first taxable year ending on or after October 14, 1995; for this purpose, the amount of possession business income taken into account is the annualized amount of such income for the portion of the year ended September 30, 1995.

As one alternative, the corporation may elect to use its taxable year ending in 1992 as its base period (with the adjusted possession business income for such year constituting its cap). As another alternative, the corporation may elect to use as its cap the annualized amount of its possession business income for the first ten months of calendar year 1995, calculated by excluding any extraordinary items (as determined under generally accepted accounting principles) for such period. For this purpose, it is intended that transactions with a related party that are not in the ordinary course of business will be considered to be extraordinary items.

If a corporation's possession business income in a year for which the cap is applicable exceeds the cap, then the corporation's possession business income for purposes of computing its Puerto Rico and possession tax credit for the year is an amount equal to the cap. The corporation's credit continues to be subject to either the economic activity limit or the applicable percentage limit, with such limit applied to the corporation's possession business income as reduced to reflect the application of the cap.

Qualification as existing credit claimant.—A corporation is an existing credit claimant with respect to a possession if (1) the corporation is engaged in the active conduct of a trade or business within the possession on October 13, 1995, and (2) the corporation has elected the benefits of the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit pursuant to an election which is in effect for its taxable year that includes October 13, 1995. A corporation that adds a substantial new line of business after October 13, 1995, ceases to be an existing credit claimant as of the beginning of the taxable year during which such new line of business is added.

For purposes of these rules, a corporation is treated as engaged in the active conduct of a trade or business within a possession on October 13, 1995, if such corporation is engaged in the active conduct of such trade or business before January 1, 1996, and such corporation has in effect on October 13, 1995, a binding contract for the acquisition of assets to be used in, or the sale of property to be produced in, such trade or business. For example, if a corporation has in effect on October 13, 1995, binding contracts for the lease of a facility and the purchase of machinery to be used in manufacturing business in a possession and if the corporation begins actively conducting that manufacturing business in the possession before January 1, 1996, that corporation would be an existing credit claimant. A change in the ownership of a corporation will not affect its status as an existing credit claimant.

In determining whether a corporation has added a substantial new line of business, the Committee intends that principles similar to those reflected in Treas. Reg. section 1.7704–2(d) (relating to the transition rules for existing publicly traded partnerships) apply. For example, a corporation that modifies its current production methods, expands existing facilities, or adds new facilities to support the production of its current product lines and products within the same four-digit Industry Number Standard Industrial Classification Code (Industry SIC Code) will not be considered to have added a substantial new line of business. In this regard, the Committee intends that the fact that a business which is added is assigned a different four-digit Industry SIC Code than is assigned to an existing business of the corporation will not automatically cause the corporation to be considered to have added a new line of business. For example, a pharmaceutical corporation that begins manufacturing a new drug will not be considered to have added a new line of business. Moreover, a pharmaceutical corporation that begins to manufacture a complete product from the bulk active chemical through the finished dosage form, a process that may be assigned two separate four-digit Industry SIC Codes, will not be considered to have added a new line of business even though it was previously engaged in activities that involved only a portion of the entire manufacturing process from bulk chemicals to finished dosages. The Committee further intends that, in the case of a merger of affiliated possession corporations that are existing credit claimants, the corporation that survives the merger will not be considered to have added a substantial new line of business by reason of its operation of the existing business of the affiliate that was merged into it.

Special rules for certain possessions.—A special transition rule applies to the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit with respect to operations in Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. For any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, and before January 1, 2006, a corporation that is an existing credit claimant with respect to one of these possessions for such year continues to determine its credit with respect to operations in such possession as under present law. For taxable years beginning in 2006 and thereafter, the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit with respect to operations in Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is eliminated.

Effective date.—The House bill is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill with three modifications.

Under the Senate amendment, the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit attributable to QPSII continues to be allowed for QPSII earned before July 1, 1996.

Under the Senate amendment, a corporation that is an existing credit claimant continues to be eligible to claim credits under the wage credit method for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2005. For taxable years beginning in 2006 and thereafter, in computing the economic activity limit on the wage credit, the percentage of the corporation's qualifying wage and fringe benefit expenses that is taken into account is reduced from 60 percent of 40 percent. The corporation's business income that is eligible for the wage credit continues to be subject to the income cap. For taxable years beginning in 2006 and thereafter, a corporation that is an existing credit claimant with respect to Guam, American Samoa, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands continues to be eligible to claim credits under the wage credit method, determined under the foregoing rules, with respect to its operations in such possession.

Under the Senate amendment, the Treasury Department is directed to study the effect on the economy of Puerto Rico of the wage credit (under present law and as amended), including an analysis of the impact of such credit on unemployment rates and economic growth. The Treasury Department is directed to submit to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance reports on its findings with respect to the impact of the wage credit within two years of the date of enactment and every four years thereafter.

Effective date.—Same as the House bill.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill with modifications.

Under the conference agreement, as under the Senate amendment, the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit attributable to QPSII continues to be allowed for QPSII earned before July 1, 1996. The conferees note that the repeal of the credit for QPSII will have the effect of eliminating a provision that has supported economic development and trade-related growth in the Caribbean Basin and served U.S. interests in the region. The loss of this program should not be interpreted as a loss of U.S. interest in the region. The conferees continue to support efforts furthering stable commercial and economic relations in that region.

Under the conference agreement, a corporation that acquires all the assets of a trade or business of an existing credit claimant will qualify as an existing credit claimant. The adjusted base period income of the existing credit claimant from which the assets are acquired is divided between such corporation and the corporation that acquires such assets. It is intended that regulations or other guidance will prevent taxpayers from abusing this rule through transactions that manipulate base period income amounts.

Under the conference agreement, for purposes of estimated tax payments due before October 1, 1996, a taxpayer whose tax liability is increased by reason of the modifications of the Puerto Rico and possession tax credit is not required to make a deposit with respect to more than 50 percent of such increase; any amount not deposited by such date will be required to be deposited, without penalty or interest, on the next estimated tax payment due date.

2. REPEAL 50-PERCENT INTEREST INCOME EXCLUSION FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION LOANS TO ESOP'S

(Sec. 1602 of the House bill and the Senate amendment.)

Present law

A bank, insurance company, regulated investment company, or a corporation actively engaged in the business of lending money may generally exclude from gross income 50

percent of interest received on an ESOP loan (sec. 133). The 50-percent interest exclusion only applies if: (1) immediately after the acquisition of securities with the loan proceeds, the ESOP owns more than 50 percent of the outstanding stock or more than 50 percent of the total value of all outstanding stock of the corporation; (2) the ESOP loan term will not exceed 15 years; and (3) the ESOP provides for full pass-through voting to participants on all allocated shares acquired or transferred in connection with the loan.

House bill

The provision repeals the 50-percent interest exclusion with respect to ESOP's.

Effective date.—The provision generally is effective with respect to loans made after October 13, 1995. The repeal of the exclusion does not apply to the refinancing of an ESOP loan originally made on or before October 13, 1995, provided: (1) such refinancing loan otherwise meets the requirements of section 133 in effect on or before October 13, 1993; (2) the outstanding principal amount of the loan is not increased; and (3) the term of the refinancing loan does not extend beyond the term of the original ESOP loan.

Senate amendment

Same as the House bill.

Effective date.—The provision is effective with respect to loans made after the date of enactment, other than loans made pursuant to a written binding contract in effect before June 10, 1996, and at all times thereafter before such loan is made. The repeal of the 50-percent interest exclusion does not apply to the refinancing of an ESOP loan originally made on or before the date of enactment or pursuant to a binding contract in effect before June 10, 1996, provided: (1) such refinancing loan otherwise meets the requirements of section 133 in effect on the day before the date of enactment; (2) the outstanding principal amount of the loan is not increased; and (3) the term of the refinancing loan does not extend beyond the term of the original ESOP loan.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

3. APPLY LOOK-THROUGH RULE FOR PURPOSES OF CHARACTERIZING CERTAIN SUBPART F INSURANCE INCOME AS UNRELATED BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME

(Sec. 1602 of the House bill.)

Present law

An organization that is exempt from tax by reason of Code section 501(a) (e.g., a charity, business league, or qualified pension trust) is nonetheless subject to tax on its unrelated business taxable income (UBTI) (sec. 511). Unrelated business taxable income generally excludes dividend income (sec. 512(b)(1)).

Special rules apply to a tax-exempt organization described in section 501(c)(3) or (c)(4) (i.e., a charity or social welfare or organization) that is engaged in commercial-type insurance activities. Such activities are treated as an unrelated trade or business and the tax-exempt organization is subject to tax on the income from such insurance activities (including investment income that might otherwise be excluded from the definition of unrelated business taxable income) under subchapter L (sec. 501(m)(2)).[49] Accordingly, a tax-exempt organization described in section 501(c)(3) or (c)(4) generally is subject to tax on its income from commercial-type insurance activities in the same manner as a taxable insurance company.

A tax-exempt organization that conducts insurance activities through a foreign corporation is not subject to U.S. tax with respect to such activities. Under the subpart F rules, the United States shareholders (as defined in sec. 951(b)) of a controlled foreign corporation (CFC) are required to include in income currently their shares of certain income of the CFC, whether or not such income is actually distributed to the shareholders. This current inclusion rule applies to certain insurance income of the CFC (sec. 953). However, income inclusions under subpart F have been characterized as dividends for unrelated business income tax purposes.[50] Accordingly, insurance earned by the CFC that is includible in income currently under subpart F by the taxable United States shareholders of the CFC is excluded from unrelated business taxable income in the case of a shareholder that is a tax-exempt organization.

House bill

The House bill applies a look-through rule in characterizing certain subpart F insurance income for unrelated business income tax purposes. Under the House bill, the look-through rule applies to amounts that constitute insurance income currently includible in gross income under the subpart F rules and that are not attributable to the insurance of risks of (1) the tax-exempt organization itself, (2) certain tax-exempt affiliates of such organization, or (3) an officer or director of, or an individual who (directly or indirectly) performs services for, the tax-exempt organization (or certain tax-exempt affiliates) provided that the insurance covers primarily risks associated with the individual's performance of services in connection with the tax-exempt organization (or tax-exempt affiliates). For purposes of this provision, a tax-exempt organization is an affiliate of another tax-exempt organization if (1) the two organizations have significant common purposes and substantial common membership of (2) the two organizations have directly or indirectly substantial common direction or control.

Effective date.—The provision applies to amounts includible in gross income in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill with one modification. For purposes of the provision, two or more organizations generally are treated as affiliates if such organizations are colleges or universities described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) or hospitals or other medical entities described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). Accordingly, in applying the provision to two or more such organizations that are the shareholders of a CFC, the exceptions from the look-through rule apply to each shareholder's share of the income attributable to insurance of risks of all such shareholders; the look-through rule applies to a shareholder's share of any income attributable to insurance of risks of a third party.

4. DEPRECIATION UNDER THE INCOME FORECAST METHOD

(Sec. 1604 of the House bill.)

Present law

In general

A taxpayer generally must capitalize the cost of property used in a trade or business and is allowed to recover such cost over time through allowances for depreciation or amortization.

The ''income forecast'' method is an allowable method for calculating depreciation for certain property. Under the income forecast method, the depreciation deduction for a taxable year for a property is determined by multiplying the cost of the property[51] (less estimated salvage value) by a fraction, the numerator of which is the income generated by the property during the year and the denominator of which is the total forecasted or estimated income to be derived from the property during its useful life. The income forecast method has been held to be applicable for computing depreciation deductions for motion picture films, television films and taped shows, books, patents, master sound recordings and video games. The total forecasted or estimated income to be derived from a property is to be based on the conditions known to exist at the end of the period for which depreciation is claimed.

House bill

The House bill makes several amendments to the income forecast method of determining depreciation deductions.

First, the bill provides that income to be taken into account under the income forecast method includes all estimated income generated by the property. In applying this rule, a taxpayer generally need not take into account income expected to be generated after the close of the tenth taxable year after the year the property was placed in service. Pursuant to a special rule, in the case of television and motion picture films, the income from the property shall include income from the financial exploitation of characters, designs, scripts, scores, and other incidental income associated with such films, but only to the extent the income is earned in connection with the ultimate use of such items by, or the ultimate sale of merchandise to, persons who are not related to the taxpayer (within the meaning of sec. 267(b)). In addition, pursuant to another special rule, if a taxpayer produces a television series and initially does not anticipate syndicating the episodes from the series, the

[49] If the commercial-type insurance activities constitute a substantial part of the organization's activities, the organization will not be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) or (c)(4) (sec. 501(m)(1)).

[50] The Internal Revenue Service has concluded in private letter rulings, which are not to be used or cited as precedent, that subpart F inclusions are treated as dividends received by the United States shareholders (a tax-exempt entity) for purposes of computing the shareholder's UBTI (see LTRs 9407007 (November 12, 1993), 90227051 (April 13, 1990), 9024086 (March 22, 1990), 9024026 (March 15, 1990), 8922047 (March 6, 1989), 8836037 (June 14, 1988), 8819034 (February 10, 1988)). However, the IRS issued on private ruling in which it concluded that subpart F inclusions are treated as if the underlying income were realized directly by the United States shareholder (a tax-exempt entity) for purposes of computing the shareholder's UBTI (see LTR 9043039 (July 30, 1990)). This ruling gave no explanation for the IRS's departure from the position in its prior rulings, and the IRS reiterated in a subsequent ruling the position that subpart F inclusions are characterized as dividends for purposes of computing UBTI. Moreover, the application of the look-through rule in the ruling in question did not affect the ultimate result in the ruling because the income to which the subpart F inclusion was attributable was of a type that was excludible from UBTI. The conferees believe that LTR 9043039 (July 30, 1990) is incorrect in its application of a look-through rule in characterizing income inclusions under subpart F for unrelated business income tax purposes.

[51] In *Transamerica Corp.* v. *U.S.*, 999 F.2d 1362, (9th Cir. 1993), the Ninth Circuit overturned the District Court and held that, for purposes of applying the income forecast method to a film, the ''cost of a film'' includes ''participation'' and ''residual'' payments (i.e., payments to producers, writers, directors, actors, guilds, and others based on a percentage of the profits from the film) even though these payments were contingent on the occurrence of future events. It is unclear to what extent, if any, the *Transamerica* decision applies to amounts incurred after the enactment of the economic performance rules of Code section 461(h), as contained in the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984.

forecasted income for the episodes of the first three years of the series need not take into account any future syndication fees (unless the taxpayer enters into an arrangement to syndicate such episodes during such period). The 10th-taxable-year rule, the financial exploitation rule, and the syndication rule apply for purposes of the lookback method described below.

Second, the adjusted basis of property that may be taken into account under the income forecast method only will include amounts that satisfy the economic performance standard of section 461(h).

Finally, taxpayers that claim depreciation deductions under the income forecast method are required to pay (or would receive) interest based on the recalculation of depreciation under a ''look-back'' method. The ''look-back'' method is applied in any ''recomputation year'' by (1) comparing depreciation deductions that had been claimed in prior periods to depreciation deductions that would have been claimed had the taxpayer used actual, rather than estimated, total income from the property; (2) determining the hypothetical overpayment or underpayment of tax based on this recalculated depreciation; and (3) applying the overpayment rate of section 6621 of the Code. Except as provided in Treasury regulations, a ''recomputation year'' is the third and tenth taxable year after the taxable year the property was placed in service, unless the actual income from the property for each taxable year ending with or before the close of such years was within 10 percent of the estimated income from the property for such years. Property that had a basis of $100,000 or less when placed in service is not subject to the look-back method.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for property placed in service after September 13, 1995, unless placed in service pursuant to a binding written contract in effect on such date and all times thereafter.

Senate amendment

No provision. A similar provision was contained in section 402 of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3286, the ''Adoption, Promotion and Stability Act of 1996,'' as favorably reported by the Senate Finance Committee on June 12, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the provision that was contained in section 402 of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3286, the ''Adoption, Promotion and Stability Act of 1996,'' as favorably reported by the Senate Finance Committee on June 12, 1996. Thus, the conference agreement provides the following modifications to the income forecast method of present law.

Determination of estimated income

First, the agreement provides that income to be taken into account under the income forecast method includes all estimated income generated by the property. In applying this rule, a taxpayer generally need not take into account income expected to be generated after the close of the tenth taxable year after the year the property was placed in service. In the case of a film, television show, or similar property, such income includes, but is not necessarily limited to, income form foreign and domestic theatrical, television, and other releases and syndications; and video tape releases, sales, rentals, and syndications.

Pursuant to a special rule, in the case of television and motion picture films, the income from the property shall include income from the financial exploitation of characters, designs, scripts, scores, and other incidental income associated with such films, but only to the extent the income is earned in connection with the ultimate use of such items by, or the ultimate sale of merchandise to, persons who are not related to the taxpayer (within the meaning of sec. 267(b)). As an example of this special rule, assume a taxpayer produces a motion picture the subject of which is the adventures of a newly-created fictional character. If the taxpayer produces dolls or T-shirts using the character's image, income from the sales of these products by the taxpayer to consumers would be taken into account in determining depreciation for the motion picture under the income forecast method. Similarly, if the taxpayer enters into any licensing or similar agreement with an unrelated party with respect to the use of the image, such licensing income would be taken into account in determining depreciation for the motion picture. However, if the taxpayer uses the character's image to promote a ride at an amusement park that is wholly-owned by the taxpayer, no portion of the admission fees for the amusement park are to be taken into account under the income forecast method with respect to the motion picture.

In addition, pursuant to another special rule, if a taxpayer produces a television series and initially does not anticipate syndicating the episodes from the series, the forecasted income for the episodes of the first three years of the series need not take into account any future syndication fees (unless the taxpayer enters into an arrangement to syndicate such episodes during such period).

The 10th-taxable-year rule, the financial exploitation rule, and the syndication rule apply for purposes of the look-back method described below.

Determination and treatment of costs of property

The adjusted basis of property that may be taken into account under the income forecast method only will include amounts that satisfy the economic performance standard of section 461(h).[52] For this purpose, if the taxpayer incurs a noncontingent liability to acquire property subject to the income forecast method from another person, economic performance will be deemed to occur with respect to such noncontingent liability when the property is provided to the taxpayer. In addition, the recurring item exception of section 461(h)(3) will apply in a manner similar to the way such exception applies under present law. Thus, expenditures that relate to an item of property that are incurred in the taxable year following the taxable year in which the property is placed in service may be taken into account in the year the property is placed in service to the extent such expenditures meet the recurring item exception for such year.

Any costs that are taken into account after the property is placed in service are treated as a separate piece of property to the extent (1) such amounts are significant and are expected to give rise to a significant increase in the income from the property that was not included in the estimated income from the property, or (2) such costs are incurred more than 10 years after the property was placed in service. To the extent costs are incurred more than 10 years after the property was placed in service and give rise to a separate piece of property for which no income is generated, such costs may be written off and deducted they are incurred. For example, assume a taxpayer places property subject to the income forecast method in service during a taxable year and all income from the property is generated in the following four-year period. If the taxpayer incurs additional costs with respect to that property more than 10 years later (e.g., a payment pursuant to a deferred contingent compensation arrangement to a person that produced the property), such costs may be deducted in the year incurred provided no more income is generated with respect to such costs or the original property.

Any costs that are not recovered by the end of the tenth taxable year after the property was placed in service may be taken into account as depreciation in such year.

Look-back method

Finally, taxpayers that claim depreciation deductions under the income forecast method are required to pay (or would receive) interest based on the recalculation of depreciation under a ''look-back'' method.[53] The ''look-back'' method is applied in any ''recomputation year'' by (1) comparing depreciation deductions that had been claimed in prior periods of depreciation deductions that would have been claimed had the taxpayer used actual, rather than estimated, total income from the property; (2) determining the hypothetical overpayment or underpayment of tax based on this recalculated depreciation; and (3) applying the overpayment rate of section 6621 of the Code.

Except as provided in Treasury regulations, a ''recomputation year'' is the third and tenth taxable year after the taxable year the property was placed in service, unless the actual income from the property for each taxable year ending with or before the close of such years was within 10 percent of the estimated income from the property for such years. The Secretary of the Treasury has the authority to allow a taxpayer to delay the initial application of the look-back method where the taxpayer may be expected to have significant income from the property after the third taxable year after the taxable year the property was placed in service (e.g., the Treasury Secretary may exercise such authority where the depreciable life of the property is expected to be longer than three years).

In applying the look-back method, any cost that is taken into account after the property was placed in service may be taken into account by discounting (using the Federal mid-term rate determined under sec. 1274(d) as of the time the costs were taken into account) such cost to its value as of the date the property was placed in service.

Property that had an unadjusted basis of $100,000 or less is not subject to the look-back method. For this purpose, ''unadjusted basis'' means the total capitalized cost of a property as of the close of a recomputation year.

The agreement provides a simplified look-back method for pass-through entities.

Effective date

The agreement is effective for property placed in service after September 13, 1995, unless produced or acquired pursuant to a binding written contract in effect on such date and all times thereafter. For this purpose, the binding contract exception may apply to a written contract in effect on the relevant dates if that contract binds a taxpayer to produce, license or deliver property that will be used by the other party to the contract once the property is produced.

The agreement may apply to property placed in service in taxable years that ended before the date of enactment of this Act. The agreement waives additions to tax imposed under sections 6654, 6655, and 6662(d) for any

[52] No inference is intended as to the proper application of section 461(h) to the income forecast method under present law.

[53] The ''look-back'' method of the provision resembles the look-back method applicable to long-term contracts accounted for under the percentage-of-completion method of present-law sec. 460.

underpayments of tax or estimated tax for any taxable year ending before the date of enactment of this Act to the extent the underpayment was created or increased by the changes made to the income forecast method of depreciation by the provision. The application of the agreement (including the look-back method) is not waived for any taxable year that ends after the date of enactment of this Act.

5. MODIFY EXCLUSION OF DAMAGES RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF PERSONAL INJURY OR SICKNESS

(Sec. 1605 of the House bill and sec. 1603 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under present law, gross income does not include any damages received (whether by suit or agreement and whether as lump sums or as periodic payments) on account of personal injury or sickness (sec. 104(a)(2)).

The exclusion from gross income of damages received on account of personal injury or sickness specifically does not apply to punitive damages received in connection with a case not involving physical injury or sickness. Courts presently differ as to whether the exclusion applies to punitive damages received in connection with a case involving a physical injury or physical sickness.[54] Certain States provide that, in the case of claims under a wrongful death statute, only punitive damages may be awarded.

Courts have interpreted the exclusion from gross income of damages received on account of personal injury or sickness broadly in some cases to cover awards for personal injury that do not relate to a physical injury or sickness. For example, some courts have held that the exclusion applies to damages in cases involving certain forms of employment discrimination and injury to reputation where there is no physical injury or sickness. The damages received in these cases generally consist of back pay and other awards intended to compensate the claimant for lost wages or lost profits. The Supreme Court recently held that damages received based on a claim under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act could not be excluded from income.[55] In light of the Supreme Court decision, the internal Revenue Service has suspended existing guidance on the tax treatment of damages received on account of other forms of employment discrimination.

House bill

Include in income all punitive damages

The House bill provides that the exclusion from gross income does not apply to any punitive damages received on account of personal injury or sickness whether or not related to a physical injury or physical sickness. Under the House bill, present law continues to apply to punitive damages received in a wrongful death action if the applicable State law (as in effect on September 13, 1995 without regard to subsequent modification) provides, or has been construed to provide by a court decision issued on or before such date, that only punitive damages may be awarded in a wrongful death action. No inference is intended as to the application of the exclusion to punitive damages prior to the effective date of the House bill in connection with a case involving a physical injury or physical sickness.

Include in income damage recoveries for nonphysical injuries

The House bill provides that the exclusion from gross income only applies to damages received on account of a personal physical injury or physical sickness. If an action has its origin in a physical injury or physical sickness, then all damages (other than punitive damages) that flow therefrom are treated as payments received on account of physical injury or physical sickness whether or not the recipient of the damages is the injured party. For example, damages (other than punitive damages) received by an individual on account of a claim for loss of consortium due to the physical injury or physical sickness of such individual's spouse are excludable from gross income. In addition, damages (other than punitive damages) received on account of a claim of wrongful death continue to be excludable from taxable income as under present law.

The House bill also specifically provides that emotional distress is not considered a physical injury or physical sickness.[56] Thus, the exclusion from gross income does not apply to any damages received (other than for medical expenses as discussed below) based on a claim of employment discrimination or injury to reputation accompanied by a claim of emotional distress. Because all damages received on account of physical injury or physical sickness are excludable from gross income, the exclusion from gross income applies to any damages received based on a claim of emotional distress that is attributable to a physical injury or physical sickness. In addition, the exclusion from gross income specifically applies to the amount of damages received that is not in excess of the amount paid for medical care attributable to emotional distress.

No inference is intended as to the application of the exclusion to damages prior to the effective date of the House bill in connection with a case not involving a physical injury or physical sickness.

Effective date.—The provisions generally are effective with respect to amounts received after June 30, 1996. The provisions do not apply to amounts received under a written binding agreement, court decree, or mediation award in effect on (or issued on or before) September 13, 1995.

Senate amendment

Include in income all punitive damages

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill.

Include in income damage recoveries for nonphysical injuries

No provision.

Conference agreement

Include in income all punitive damages

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment.

Include in income damage recoveries for nonphysical injuries

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

Effective date.—The provision generally are effective with respect to amounts received after date of enactment. The provisions do not apply to amounts received under a written binding agreement, court decree, or mediation award in effect on (or issued on or before) September 13, 1995.

6. REPEAL ADVANCE REFUNDS OF DIESEL FUEL TAX FOR PURCHASERS OF DIESEL-POWERED AUTOMOBILES, VANS AND LIGHT TRUCKS

(Sec. 1606 of the House bill.)

Present Law

Excise taxes are imposed on gasoline (14 cents per gallon) and diesel fuel (20 cents per gallon) to fund the Federal Highway Trust Fund. Before 1985, the gasoline and diesel fuel tax rates were the same. The predominate highway use of diesel fuel is by trucks. In 1984, the diesel excise tax rate was increased above the gasoline tax as the revenue offset for a reduction in the annual heavy truck use tax. Because automobiles, vans, and light trucks did not benefit from the use tax reductions, a provision was enacted allowing first purchasers of model year 1979 and later diesel-powered automobiles and light trucks a tax credit to offset this increased diesel fuel tax. The credit is $102 for automobiles and $198 for vans and light trucks.

House bill

The House bill repeals the tax credit for purchasers of diesel-powered automobiles, vans and light trucks.

Effective date.—Vehicles purchased after the date of enactment.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

7. EXTENSION AND PHASEOUT OF EXCISE TAX ON LUXURY AUTOMOBILES

(Sec. 1604 of the bill and sec. 4001 of the Code.)

Present law

Present law imposes an excise tax on the sale of an automobile whose price exceeds a designated threshold, currently $34,000. The excise tax is imposed at a rate of 10-percent on the excess of the sales price above the designated threshold. The $34,000 threshold is indexed for inflation.

The tax applies to sales before January 1, 2000.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment extends and phases out the luxury tax on automobiles. The tax rate is reduced by one percentage point per year beginning in 1996. The tax rate for sales (on or after the date of enactment plus seven days) in 1996 is 9 percent. The tax rate for sales in 1997 is 8 percent. The tax rate for sales in 1998 is 7 percent. The tax rate for sales in 1999 is 6 percent. The tax rate for sales in 2000 is 5 percent. The tax rate for sales in 2001 is 4 percent. The tax rate for sales in 2002 is 3 percent. The tax will expire after December 31, 2002.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for sales on or after date of enactment plus seven days.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

8. ALLOW CERTAIN PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE LOCAL FURNISHING OF ELECTRICITY OR GAS TO ELECT NOT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE TAX-EXEMPT BOND FINANCING

(Sec. 1605 of the amendment.)

Interest on State and local government bonds generally is excluded from income except where the bonds are issued to provide financing for private parties. Present law includes several exceptions, however, that allow tax-exempt bonds to be used to provide financing for certain specifically identified private parties. One such exception allows tax-exempt bonds to be issued to finance facilities for the furnishing of electricity or gas by private parties if the area served by the facilities does not exceed (1) two contiguous counties or (2) a city and a contiguous

[54] The Supreme Court recently agreed to decide whether punitive damages awarded in a physical injury lawsuit are excludable from gross income. *O'gilvie* v. *U.S.*, 66 F.3d 1550 (10th Cir. 1995), cert. granted, 64 U.S.L.W. 36+39 (U.S. March 25, 1996) (No. 95–966). Also, the Tax Court recently held that if punitive damages are not of a compensatory nature, they are not excludable from income, regardless of whether the underlying claim involved a physical injury or physical sickness. *Bagley* v. *Commissioner*, 105 T.C. No. 27 (1995).

[55] *Schleier* v. *Commissioner*, 115 S. Ct. 2159 (1995).

[56] It is intended that the term emotional distress includes symptoms (e.g., insomnia, headaches, stomach disorders) which may result from such emotional distress.

county (commonly referred to as the ''local furnishing'' of electricity or gas).

Most private activity tax-exempt bonds are subject to general State private activity bond volume limits of $50 per resident of the State ($150 million, if greater) per year. Tax-exempt bonds for facilities used in the local furnishing of electricity or gas are subject to this limit. Like most other private beneficiaries of tax-exempt bonds, borrowers using tax-exempt bonds to finance these facilities are denied interest deductions on the debt underlying the bonds if the facilities cease to be used in qualified local furnishing activities. Additionally, as with all tax-exempt bonds, if the use of facilities financed with the bonds changes to a use a not qualified for tax-exempt financing after the debt is incurred, interest on the bonds becomes taxable unless certain safe harbor standards are satisfied.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment allows persons that have received tax-exempt financing of facilities that currently qualify as used in the local furnishing of electricity or gas to elect to terminate their qualification for this tax-exempt financing and to expand their service areas without incurring the present-law loss of interest deductions and loss of tax-exemption penalties if—

(1) no additional bonds are issued for facilities of the person making the election (or were issued for any predecessor) after the date of the provision's enactment;

(2) the expansion of the person's service area is not financed with any tax-exempt bond proceeds; and

(3) all outstanding tax-exempt bounds of the person making the election (and any predecessor) are redeemed no later than six months after the earliest date on which redemption is not prohibited under the terms of the bonds, as issued, (or six months after the election, if later).

Except as described below, the provision further limits the local furnishing exception to bonds for facilities of (1) of persons that qualified as engaged in that activity on the date of the provision's enactment and (2) that serve areas served by those persons on that date. The area which is considered to be served on the date of the provision's enactment consists of the geographic area in which service actually is being provided on that date. Service initially provided after the date of enactment to a new customer within that area (e.g., as a result of new construction or of a change in heating fuel type) is not treated as a service area expansion.

For purposes of this requirement, a change in the identity of a person serving an area is disregarded if the change is the result of a corporate reorganization where the area served remains unchanged and there is common ownership of both the predecessor and successor entities. To facilitate compliance with electric and gas industry restructuring now in progress, the Senate amendment further permits continued qualification of successor entities under a ''step-in-the-shoes'' rule without regard to common ownership if the service provided remains unchanged and the area served after the facilities are transferred does not exceed the service area before the transfer. For example, if facilities of a person engaged in local furnishing are sold to another person, the purchaser (when it engages in otherwise qualified local furnishing activities) is eligible for continued tax-exempt financing to the same extent that the seller would have been had the sale not occurred if the service provided and the area served by the facilities do not change.

Similarly, a purchaser ''steps into the shoes'' of its seller with regard to eligibility (or the lack thereof) for making the election to terminate its status as engaged in local furnishing without imposition of certain penalties on outstanding tax-exempt bonds. For example, if a person engaged in local furnishing activities on the date of the provision's enactment receives financing from tax-exempt bonds issued after the date of the provision's enactment (and is thereby ineligible to make the election), any purchaser from that person likewise is ineligible.

Effective date.—The Senate amendment is effective on the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment, with two modifications to the portion of the provision that generally limits the benefit of tax-exempt financing to persons engaged in local furnishing activities on the date of the provision's enactment. First, the conference agreement allows certain expansions of existing local furnishing service areas to occur after the effective date of the provision without affecting continued qualification under the local furnishing exception, both within the existing service area and in the expansion area. Under this modification, a qualified local furnishing service area which includes a portion of a city or a county on the effective date of the provision may be expanded after that date to include other portions of the same city or county. For example, if a gas utility's service area on the effective date of the provision includes only an urban section of a county, a subsequent expansion of the utility's service area to include rural portions of the same county (e.g., as a result of population growth), does not in itself preclude qualification of the entire, expanded service area as a local furnishing area. This exception does not, however, allow expansion of local furnishing service areas beyond the borders of a city or county where service is being provided on the effective date of the provision or interconnection of facilities serving those areas with other facilities or persons in a manner not permitted under present law.

Second, the date by which an entity must be engaged in local furnishing activities (i.e., have facilities for local furnishing placed in service in that activity) as a condition of receiving future tax-exempt financing is delayed until January 1, 1997 (rather than the date of the provision's enactment).

The conferees also wish to clarify several questions that have risen since passage of the Senate amendment with respect to the limitation on future eligibility under the local furnishing exception. First, because the conference agreement precludes issuance of tax-exempt bonds except for local furnishers engaged in that activity on January 1, 1997 (and successors in interest), the statutory wording of the provision differs from the traditional focus of the local furnishing exception on a two county (or city and contiguous county) area without regard to the entity providing the service. The statutory references to ''persons'' engaged in the local furnishing of electricity or gas contained in the conference agreement are intended to prevent new entities (other than successors in interest) from qualifying for tax-exempt financing under the local furnishing exception. They are not to be construed in a manner affecting the tax-exempt status of interest on any outstanding bonds or the receipt of additional tax-exempt financing by an existing local furnisher, provided that the facilities financed with those bonds are used at all times in qualified local furnishing activities (defined under present law as modified by the conference agreement) and the bonds comply otherwise with the Internal Revenue Code's requirements for tax-exemption.

Second, the conferees are aware that present-law disregards certain transmission of electricity pursuant to FERC orders in determining whether a facility is used in the local furnishing of electricity. The conference agreement retains the relevant statutory rule to that effect, and the conferees intend no change in that rule.

Third, the conferees wish to clarify, by example, the application of the restriction on qualified local furnishing activities contained in this portion of the conference agreement to certain utility transactions such as those that may be expected to occur as a result of deregulation of the electric and gas industries.

Example (1).—As part of a corporate reorganization, an existing local furnishing utility sells a portion of its service area to a third party. The retained portion of the utility's service territory continues to qualify for tax-exempt financing under the local furnishing exception provided that no violations of that exception such as an impermissible interconnection with facilities outside the area occur. The determination of whether the portion of the service territory that is sold to a third party continues to qualify under the local furnishing exception depends on the manner in which the purchaser provides service in the area it acquires. If, for example, the purchaser operates in the area which it purchases in a manner that otherwise qualifies under the local furnishing exception, the purchaser is treated as a successor in interest to the seller and facilities for the area that is sold continue to be treated as used in local furnishing. However, if that area is merged into, or impermissibly (under present-law rules) and interconnected with, another service area that does not qualify as a local furnishing area after the transaction, the successor in interest rule does not preserve the status as a local furnishing area of the area sold.

Example (2).—Two independent utilities, both qualifying as engaged in local furnishing on the effective date of the provision, serve adjoining areas. The utilities decide to adjust their common service area boundary line to eliminate irregular geographic patterns. The parties to this transaction may be treated as successors in interest with respect to the area each acquires if the resulting service areas each qualify under the local furnishing exception (as modified by the conference agreement).

Example (3).—Assume the facts of Example (2), except the area acquired by one of the utilities is in a county where it did not provide service before the boundary line adjustments, and the utility's resulting service area includes all or part of three counties. That utility would no longer qualify as engaged in local furnishing under present law. The result is the same under the conference agreement.

Example (4).—Assume the facts of Example (2), except the utilities merge into a single company with a single service area. If the resulting combined service area of the new company does not exceed two counties (or a city and a contiguous county), the new company continues to be eligible for tax-exempt financing as a successor in interest.

Example (5).—Assume that a local furnishing utility decides to contract with a newly-formed independent power generating venture to construct a generating plant that will sell electricity to it exclusively for use in its service area. Tax-exempt bonds may not be issued under the local furnishing exception for construction of the generating plant. The independent power producer was neither engaged in the local furnishing of electricity to the service area involved on the effective date of the conference agreement's restriction nor is it a successor in interest under the agreement.

Effective date.—These provisions are effective on the date of the conference agreement's enactment.

9. REPEAL OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION TRANSITION RULE TO INTEREST ALLOCATION RULES

Present law

For foreign tax credit purposes, taxpayers generally are required to allocate and apportion interest expense U.S. and foreign source income based on the proportion of the taxpayer's total assets in each location. Such allocation and apportionment is required to be made for affiliated groups (as defined in sec. 864(e)(5)) as a whole rather than on a subsidiary-by-subsidiary basis. However, certain types of financial institutions that are members of an affiliated group are treated as members of a separate affiliated group for purposes of allocating and apportioning their interest expense. Section 1215(c)(5) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 (P.L. 99–145, 100 Stat. 2548) includes a targeted rule which treats a certain corporation as a financial institution for this purpose.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision. However section 1606 of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3448 (Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996) contained a provision that repeals section 1215(c)(5) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

Effective date.—Taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

10. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXCISE TAXES

(Sec. 1607 of the Senate amendment and secs. 4041, 4081, 4261, and 4271 of the Code)

Present law

Extension of aviation taxes

Before January 1, 1996, the following excise taxes were imposed to fund the Airport and Airway Trust Fund: (1) a 10-percent tax on domestic air passenger tickets; (2) a 6.25-percent tax on domestic air freight waybills; (3) a $6-per-person tax on international air departures; (4) a 17.5 cents-per-gallon tax on jet fuel used in noncommercial aviation; and (5) a 15-cents-per-gallon tax on gasoline used in noncommercial aviation (14 cents per gallon of this tax continues, with the revenues being deposited in the Highway Trust Fund). In addition, jet fuel and gasoline used in noncommercial aviation are subject to a tax of 4.3 cents per gallon, the revenues of which are deposited in the General Fund of the Treasury. Prior to January 1, 1996, of the total tax of 19.3 cents per gallon imposed on gasoline used in noncommercial aviation, 18.3 cents per gallon was collected when the gasoline was removed from a pipeline or barge terminal. The remaining 1 cent per gallon was imposed at the retail level.

Exemption for certain medical air transportation

An exemption is provided from the air passenger and air freight taxes for emergency medical helicopter transportation if the helicopter does not take off from or land at Federally assisted airports or otherwise use Federal aviation facilities or services.

Exemption for helicopters used in exploration or development of hard minerals or oil or gas

An exemption is provided from the air passenger tax for helicopter transportation for exploration, development, or removal of hard minerals or oil or gas if the helicopter does not take off from or land at Federally assisted airports or otherwise use Federal aviation facilities or services.

Transportation of employees of affiliated companies

Generally, when employees fly on their employer's aircraft, the fuel tax applies, but when a company flies other passengers for compensation or hire, the passenger ticket tax applies. Employees of affiliated corporations do not cause the air ticket tax to apply. The Internal Revenue Service has interpreted the use limitation of present-law section 4282 on an all-or nothing basis relating to aircraft of affiliated groups. That is, if an aircraft is available for hire by persons outside the affiliated group, all amounts paid for transportation, including charges among members of an affiliated group, are subject to the passenger ticket tax rather than the fuels tax.[57]

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

Extension of aviation taxes

The five Airport and Airway Trust Fund excise taxes are reinstated at the pre-1996 rates for the period beginning seven days after the date of enactment through April 15, 1997.

Exemption for certain medical air transportation

The Senate amendment: (1) expands the exemption for emergency medical helicopters to also include fixed-wing aircraft equipped for and exclusively dedicated to acute care emergency medical services; and (2) removes the reference to non-use of Federally assisted airports or other Federal aviation facilities or services for such medical aircraft to qualify for the exemption.

Exemption for helicopters used in exploration or development of hard minerals or oil or gas

The Senate amendment provides that the exemption for such helicopter transportation applies on a flight segment basis.

Effective date.—The Senate amendment applies for transportation or fuel sold beginning seven days after the date of enactment. The air passenger and air freight taxes do not apply to any amount paid before that date, even if for transportation occurring during the reinstatement period.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment with three modifications. First, the conference agreement reinstates the five Airport and Airway Trust Fund excise taxes at the pre-1996 rates for the period beginning seven calendar days after the date of enactment and through December 1, 1996 (rather than through April 15, 1997).

Second, the conference agreement consolidates imposition of the aviation gasoline excise tax, with the entire 19.3-cents-per-gallon rate being imposed when the gasoline is removed from a pipeline or barge terminal facility.

Third, the conference agreement provides that the determination of which tax, the passenger ticket tax or the fuels tax, applies to flights of aircraft of affiliated groups of corporations will be made on a flight-by-flight basis.

Effective date,—Same as Senate amendment.

11. MODIFY BASIS ADJUSTMENT RULES UNDER SECTION 1033

(Sec. 1608 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Under section 1033, gain realized by a taxpayer from certain involuntary conversions of property is deferred to the extent the taxpayer purchases property similar or related in service of use to the converted property within a specified replacement period of time. The replacement property may be acquired directly or by acquiring control of a corporation (generally, 80 percent of the stock of the corporation) that owns replacement property. The taxpayer's basis in the replacement property generally is the same as the taxpayer's basis in the converted property, decreased by the amount of any money or loss recognized on the conversion, and increased by the amount of any gain recognized on the conversion. In cases in which a taxpayer purchases stock as replacement property, the taxpayer generally reduces the basis of the stock, but does not reduce the basis of the underlying assets. Thus, the reduction in the basis of the stock generally does not result in reduced depreciation deductions where the corporation holds depreciable property, and may result in the taxpayer having more aggregate depreciable basis after the acquisition of replacement property than before the involuntary conversion.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides that where the taxpayer satisfies the replacement property requirement of section 1033 by acquiring stock in a corporation, the corporation generally will reduce its adjusted bases in its assets by the amount by which the taxpayer reduces its basis in the stock. The corporation's adjusted bases in its assets will not be reduced, in the aggregate, below the taxpayer's basis is its stock (determined after the appropriate basis adjustment for the stock). In addition, the basis of any individual asset will not be reduced below zero. The basis reduction first is applied to: (1) property that is similar or related in service or use to the converted property, then (2) to other depreciable property, then (3) to other property.

Effective date.—The provision applies to involuntary conversions occurring after the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

12. EXTENSION OF WITHHOLDING TO CERTAIN GAMBLING WINNINGS

(Sec. 1609 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general, proceeds from a wagering transaction are subject to withholding at a rate of 28 percent if the proceeds exceed $5,000 and are at least 300 times as large as the amount wagered. No withholding tax is imposed on winnings from bingo or keno.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment imposes withholding on proceeds from bingo or keno wagering transactions at a rate of 28 percent if such proceeds exceed $5,000, regardless of the odds of the wager.

Effective date.—The provision is effective 30 days after the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

13. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INSURANCE CONTRACTS ON RETIRED LIVES

(Sec. 1610 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Life insurance companies are allowed a deduction for any net increase in reserves and are required to include in income any net decrease in reserves. The reserve of a life insurance company for any contract is the greater

[57] Rev. Rul. 770405, 1977–2 C.B. 381; Rev. Rul. 76–394, 1976–2 C.B. 355.

of the net surrender value of the contract or the reserve determined under Federally prescribed rules. In no event, however, may the amount of the reserve for tax purposes for any contract at any time exceed the amount of the reserve for annual statement purposes.

Special rules are provided in the case of a variable contract. Under these rules, the reserve for a variable contract is adjusted by (1) subtracting any amount that has been added to the reserve by reason of appreciation in the value of assets underlying such contract, and (2) adding any amount that has been subtracted from the reserve by reason of depreciation in the value of assets underlying such contract. In addition, the basis of each asset underlying a variable contract is adjusted for appreciation or depreciation to the extent the reserve is adjusted.

A variable contract generally is defined as any annuity or life insurance contract (1) that provides for the allocation of all or part of the amounts received under the contract to an account that is segregated from the general asset accounts of the company, and (2) under which, in the case of an annuity contract, the amounts paid in, or the amounts paid out, reflect the investment return and the market value of the segregated asset account, or, in the case of a life insurance contract, the amount of the death benefit (or the period of coverage) is adjusted on the basis of the investment return and the market value of the segregated asset account. A pension plan contract that is not a life, accident, or health, property, casualty, or liability insurance contract is treated as an annuity contract for purposes of this definition.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides that a variable contract is to include a contract that provides for the funding of group term life or group accident and health insurance on retired lives if: (1) the contract provides for the allocation of all or part of the amounts received under the contract to an account that is segregated from the general asset account of the company; and (2) the amounts paid in, or the amounts paid out, under the contract reflect the investment return and the market value of the segregated asset account underlying the contract.

Thus, the reserve for such a contract is to be adjusted by (1) subtracting any amount that has been added to the reserve by reason of appreciation in the value of assets underlying such contract, and (2) adding any amount that has been subtracted from the reserve by reason of depreciation in the value of assets underlying such contract. In addition, the basis of each asset underlying the contract is to be adjusted for appreciation or depreciation to the extent that the reserve is adjusted.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

14. TREATMENT OF MODIFIED GUARANTEED CONTRACTS

Present law

Life insurance companies are allowed a deduction for any net increase in reserves and are required to include in income any net decrease in reserves. The reserve of a life insurance company for any contract is the greater of the net surrender value of the contract or the reserve determined under Federally prescribed rules. The net surrender value of a contract is the cash surrender value reduced by any surrender penalty, except that any market value adjustment required on surrender is not taken into account. In no event, however, may the amount of the reserve for tax purposes for any contract at any time exceed the amount of the reserve for annual statement purposes.

In general, assets held for investment are treated as capital assets. Any gain or loss from the sale or exchange of a capital asset is treated as a capital gain or loss and is taken into account for the taxable year in which the asset is sold or exchanged.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement generally applies a mark-to-market regime to assets held as part of a segregated account under a modified guaranteed contract issued by a life insurance company. Gain or loss with respect to such assets held as of the close of any taxable year are taken into account for that year (even though the assets have not been sold or exchanged),[58] and are treated as ordinary. If gain or loss is taken into account by reason of the mark-to-market requirement, then the amount of gain or loss subsequently realized as a result of sale, exchange, or other disposition of the asset, or as a result of the application of the mark-to-market requirement is appropriately adjusted to reflect such gain or loss. In addition, the reserve for a modified guaranteed contract is determined by taking into account the market value adjustment required on surrender of the contract.

A modified guaranteed contract is defined as any life insurance contract, annuity contract or pension plan contract[59] that is not a variable contract (within the meaning of Code section 817), and that satisfies the following requirements. All or part of the amounts received under the contract must be allocated to an account which, pursuant to State law or regulation, is segregated from the general asset accounts of the company and is valued from time to time by reference to market values.

The reserves for the contract must be valued at market for annual statement purposes and the Federally prescribed reserve for the contract under section 807(d)(2) must be valued at market. Further, a modified guaranteed contract includes only a contract that provides either for a net surrender value or for a policyholder's fund (within the meaning of section 807(e)(1)). It is intended that a policyholder's fund be more than de minimis. For example, Treasury regulations could provide that a policyholder's fund that represents 15 percent or less of the insurer's reserve for the contract under section 807, and that is attributable to employee contributions, would be considered de minimis.

If only a portion of the contract is not described in section 817, that portion is treated as a separate contract for purposes of the provision.

The Treasury Department is authorized to issue regulations that provide for the application of the mark-to-market requirement at times other than the close of a taxable year or the last business day of a taxable year. The Treasury Department is also authorized to issue such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the provision and to provide for treatment of modified guaranteed contracts under sections 72, 7702, and 7702A. In addition, the Treasury Department is authorized to determine the interest rates applicable under section 807(c)(3), 807(d)(2)(B) and 812 with respect to modified guaranteed contracts annually, calculating such rates as appropriate for modified guaranteed contracts. The Treasury Department has discretion to determine an appropriate rate that is a current market rate, which could be determined, for example, either by using a rate that is appropriate for the obligations under the contract to which the reserve relates, or by taking into account the yield on the assets underlying the contract. The Treasury Department may exercise this authority by issuing a periodic announcement of the appropriate market interest rates or formula for determining such rates. The Treasury Department is also authorized, to the extent appropriate for such a contract, to modify or waive section 811(d).

The Treasury Department is also authorized to provide rules limiting the ordinary treatment provided under the provision to gain or loss on those assets properly taken into account in calculating the reserve for Federal tax purposes (and necessary to support such reserves) for modified guaranteed contracts, and to provide rules for limiting such treatment with respect to other assets (such as assets representing surplus of the company). Particular concern has been expressed about characterization of gain or loss as ordinary under the provision in transactions that would otherwise either (1) have to meet the requirements of the hedging exception to the straddle rules to receive this treatment, or (2) by treated as capital transactions under present law. It is intended that the mark-to-market treatment apply to all assets held as part of a segregated account established under the provision, even though ordinary treatment may not apply (pursuant to Treasury regulatory authority) to assets held as part of the segregated account that are not necessary to support the reserve for modified guaranteed contracts.

The conference agreement authorizes the Treasury Department to prescribe regulations that provide for the treatment of assets transferred to or from a segregated account. This regulatory authority is provided because of concern that taxpayers may exercise selective ordinary loss (or income or gain) recognition by virtue of the ordinary treatment under the provision. One example of selective ordinary loss recognition could arise if assets are always marked to market when transferred out of the segregated account. For example, if at the beginning of the taxable year an asset in the segregated account is worth $1,000, but declines to $900 in July, the taxpayer might choose to recognize $100 of ordinary loss while continuing to own the asset, simply by transferring it out of the segregated account in July and replacing $1,000 of cash (for example) in the segregated account.

It is intended that the regulations relating to asset transfers will forestall opportunities for selective recognition of ordinary items. Prior to the issuance of these regulations, the following rules shall apply.

If an asset is transferred to a segregated account, gain or loss attributable to the period during which the asset was not in the segregated account is taken into account when the asset is actually sold, and retains the character (as ordinary or capital) properly attributable to that period. Appropriate adjustments are made to the basis of the asset to reflect gain or loss attributable to that period.

If an asset is transferred out of a segregated account, the transfer is deemed to

[58] The wash sale rules of section 1091 of the Code are not to apply to any loss that is required to be taken into account solely by reason of the mark-to-market requirement.

[59] The provision applies only to a pension plan contract that is not a life, accident or health, property, casualty, or liability contract.

occur on the last business day of the taxable year and gain or loss with respect to the transferred asset is taken into account as of that day. Loss with respect to such transferred asset is treated as ordinary to the extent of the lesser of (1) the loss (if any) that would have been recognized if the asset had been sold for its fair market value on the last business day of the taxable year (or the date the asset was actually sold by the taxpayer, if earlier) or (2) the loss (if any) that would have been recognized if the asset had been sold for its fair market value on the date of the transfer. A similar rule applies for gains. Proper adjustment is made in the amount of any gain or loss subsequently realized to reflect gain or loss under the provision.

For example, assume that a capital asset in the segregated account that is worth $1,000 at the beginning of the year is transferred out of the segregated account in July at a value of $900, is retained by the company and is worth $950 on the last business day of the taxable year. A $50 ordinary loss is taken into account with respect to the asset for the taxable year (the difference Between $1,000 and $950). The asset is not marked to market in any subsequent year under the provision, provide that it is not transferred back to the segregated account.

As an additional example, assume that a capital asset in the segregated account that is worth $1,000 at the beginning of the year is transferred out of the segregated accounted in July at a value of $900, is retained by the company and continues to decline in value to $850 on the last business day of the taxable year. A $100 ordinary loss ($1,000 less $900) and a $50 capital loss ($900 less $850) is taken into account with respect to the asset for the taxable year.

Effective date.—The provision applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995. A taxpayer that is required to (1) change its calculation of reserves to take into account market value adjustments and (2) mark to market its segregated assets in order to comply with the requirements of the provision is treated as having initiated changes in methods of accounting and as having received the consent of the Treasury Department to make such changes.

Except as otherwise provided in special rules (described below), the section 481(a) adjustments required by reason of the changes in method of accounting are to be taken into account as ordinary income for the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

Special rules providing for a seven-year spread apply in the case of certain losses (if any), and in the case of certain reserve increases (if any), in order to limit selective loss recognition or selective minimization of gain recognition. Thus, the seven-year spread rule applies when the taxpayer's section 481(a) adjustment is negative.

First, if, for the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, (1) the aggregate amount of the loss recognized by reason of the change in method of accounting with respect to segregated assets under modified guaranteed contracts (i.e., the switch to a mark-to-market regime for such assets) exceeds (2) the amount include in income by reason of the change in method of accounting with respect to reserves (i.e., the change permitting a market value adjustment to be taken into account with respect to a modified guaranteed contract), then the excess is not allowed as a deduction in the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995. Rather, such excess is allowed ratably over the period of seven taxable years beginning with the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995. The adjusted basis of each such segregated asset is nevertheless determined as if such losses were realized in the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

Second, if, for the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, (1) the aggregate amount the taxpayer's deduction that arises by reason of the change in method of accounting with respect to reserves (i.e., the change permitting a market value adjustment to be taken into account with respect to a modified guaranteed contract), exceeds (2) the aggregate amount of the gain recognized by reason of the change in method of accounting with respect to segregated assets under modified guaranteed contracts (i.e., the switch to a mark-to-market regime for such assets), then the excess is not allowed as a deduction in the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995. Rather, such excess is allowed ratably over the period of seven taxable years beginning with the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995.

15. TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION FOR WATER UTILITIES

(Sec. 1611(a) of the Senate amendment.)

Present and prior law

The gross income of a corporation does not include contributions to its capital. A contribution to the capital of a corporation does not include any contribution in aid of construction or any other contribution as a customer or potential customer.

Prior to the enactment of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 (''1986 Act''), a regulated public utility that provided electric energy, gas water, or sewage disposal services was allowed to treat any amount of money or property received from any person as a tax-free contribution to its capital so long as such amount: (1) was a contribution in aid of construction; and (2) was not included in the taxpayer's rate base for rate-making purposes. A contribution in aid of construction did not include a connection fee. The basis of any property acquired with a contribution in aid of construction was zero.

If the contribution was in property other than electric energy, gas, steam, water, or sewerage disposal facilities, such contribution was not includible in the utility's gross income so long as: (1) an amount at least equal to the amount of the contribution was expended for the acquisition or construction of tangible property that was used predominantly in the trade or business of furnishing utility services; (2) the expenditure occurred before the end of the second taxable year after the year that the contribution was received; and (3) certain records were kept with respect to the contribution and the expenditure. In addition, the status of limitations for the assessment of deficiencies was extended in the case of these contributions.

These rules were repealed by the 1986 Act. Thus, after the 1986 Act, the receipt by a utility of a contribution in aid of construction is includible in the gross income of the utility, and the basis of property received or constructed pursuant to the contribution is not reduced.

House bill

No. provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment restores the contributions in aid of construction provisions that were repealed by the 1986 Act for regulated public utilities that provide water or sewerage disposal services.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for amounts received after June 12, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

16. REQUIRE WATER UTILITY PROPERTY TO BE DEPRECIATED OVER 25 YEARS

(Sec. 1611(b) of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Property used by a water utility in the gathering, treatment, and commercial distribution of water and municipal sewers are depreciated over a 20-year period for regular tax purposes. The depreciation method generally applicable to property with a recovery period of 20 years is the 150-percent declining balance method (switching to the straight-line method in the year that maximizes the depreciation deduction). The straight-line method applies to property with a recovery period over 20 years.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment provides that water utility property will be depreciated using a 25-year recovery period and the straight-line method for regular tax purposes. For this purpose, ''water utility property'' means (1) property that is an integral part of the gathering, treatment, or commercial distribution of water, and that, without regard to the proposal, would have had a recovery period of 20 years and (2) any municipal sewer. Such property generally is described in Asset Classes 49.3 and 51 of Revenue Procedure 87–56, 1987–2 C.B. 674. The Senate amendment does not change the class lives of water utility property for purposes of the alternative depreciation system of section 168(g).

Effective date.—The provision is effective for property placed in service after June 12, 1996, other than property placed in service pursuant to a binding contract in effect before June 10, 1996, and at all times thereafter before the property is placed in service.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

17. ALLOW CONVERSION OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING CORPORATION TO TAXABLE CORPORATION

(Sec. 1621 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Qualified scholarship funding corporations are nonprofit corporations established and operated exclusively for the purpose of acquiring student loan notes incurred under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (sec. 150(d)). In addition, a qualified scholarship funding corporation must be required by its corporate charter and bylaws, or under State law, to devote any income (after payment of expenses, debt service and the creation of reserves for the same) to the purchase of additional student loan notes or to pay over any income to the United States.

In general, State and local government bonds issued to finance private loans (e.g., student loans) are taxable private activity bonds. However, interest on qualified student loan bonds is tax-exempt. Qualified scholarship funding corporations are eligible issuers of qualified student loan bonds.

The Internal Revenue Code restricts the direct and indirect investment of bond proceeds in higher yielding investments and requires that profits on investments that are unrelated to the government purpose for which the bonds are issued be rebated to the United States. Special allowance payments (SAP) made by the Department of Education are treated as interest on notes and, therefore, are permitted arbitrage that need not be rebated to the United States.

Generally, a private foundation and disqualified persons may, in the aggregate, own 20 percent of the voting stock of a functionally unrelated corporation.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

In general.—The amendment would provide that a nonprofit student loan funding corporation may elect to cease its status as a qualified scholarship funding corporation. If the corporation meets the requirements outlined below, such an election would not cause any bond outstanding as of the date of the issuer's election and any bond issued to refund such a bond to fail to be a qualified student loan bond. Once made, an election could be revoked only with the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury. After making the election, the issuer would not be authorized to issue any new bonds.

Requirements.—First, upon making the election, the issuer would be required to transfer all of the student loan notes to another, taxable, corporation in exchange for senior stock of such corporation within a reasonable period of time after the election is made. Immediately after the transfer, the issuer, and any other issuer who made the election, would be required to hold all of the senior stock of the corporation. Senior stock is stock whose rights to dividends, liquidation or redemption rights are not inferior to those of any other class of stock and that (1) participates pro rata and fully in the equity value of any other common stock of the corporation, (2) has the right to payments receivable in liquidation prior to any other stock in the corporation, (3) upon liquidation or redemption, has a fixed right to receive the greater of (a) the fair market value of the stock at the date of liquidation or redemption or (b) the net fair market value of all assets transferred to the corporation by the issuer, and (4) has a right to require its redemption by a date which is not later than 10 years after the date that the election is made.

Second, the transferee corporation would be required to assume or otherwise provide for the payment of all the qualified scholarship funding bond indebtedness of the issuer within a reasonable period after the election.

Third, immediately after the transfer, the issuer (i.e., the nonprofit student loan funding corporation) would be required to become a charitable organization (described in section 501(c)(3) that is exempt from tax under section 501(a)), at least 80 percent of the members of its board of directors must be independent members, and it must hold all of the senior stock of the corporation.

Excess business holdings.—For purposes of the excess business holding restrictions imposed on a private foundation, the charity would not be required to divest its ownership in a corporation most of whose assets are student loan notes incurred under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Effective date.—The amendment would be effective on the date of enactment.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

18. APPLY MATHEMATICAL OR CLERICAL ERROR PROCEDURES FOR DEPENDENCY EXEMPTIONS AND FILING STATUS WHEN CORRECT TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS ARE NOT PROVIDED

(Sec. 1613 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

In general

Individuals who claim personal exemptions for dependents must include on their tax return the name and taxpayer identification number (TIN) of each dependent. For returns filed with respect to tax year 1996, individuals must provide a TIN for all dependents born on or before November 30, 1996. For returns filed with respect to tax year 1997 and all subsequent years, individuals must provide TINs for all dependents, regardless of their age. An individual's TIN is generally that individual's social security number.

If the individual fails to provide a correct TIN for a dependent, the Internal revenue Service may impose a $50 penalty.

Mathematical or clerical errors

The IRS may summarily assess additional tax due as a result of a mathematical or clerical error without sending the taxpayer a notice of deficiency and giving the taxpayer an opportunity to petition the Tax Court. Where the IRS uses the summary assessment procedure for mathematical or clerical errors, the taxpayer must be given an explanation of the asserted error and a period of 60 days to request that the IRS abate its assessments. The IRS may not proceed to collect the amount of the assessment until the taxpayer has agreed to it or has allowed the 60-day period for objecting to expire. If the taxpayer files a request for abatement of the assessment specified in the notice, the IRS must abate the assessment. Any reassessment of the abated amount is subject to the ordinary deficiency procedures. The request for abatement of the assessment is the only procedure a taxpayer may use prior to paying the assessed amount in order to contest an assessment arising out of a mathematical or clerical error. Once the assessment is satisfied, however, the taxpayer may file a claim for refund if he or she believes the assessment was made in error.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

If an individual fails to provide a correct TIN for a dependent, the IRS is authorized to deny the dependency exemption. Such a change also has indirect consequences for other tax benefits currently conditioned on being able to claim a dependency exemption (e.g., head of household filing status and the dependent care credit). In addition, the failure to provide a correct TIN for a dependent will be treated as a mathematical or clerical error and thus any notification that the taxpayer owes additional tax because of that failure will not be treated as a notice of deficiency.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for tax returns for which the due date (without regard to extensions) is 30 days or more after the date of enactment. For taxable years beginning in 1995, no requirement to obtain a TIN applies in the case of dependents born after October 31, 1995. For taxable years beginning in 1996, no requirement to obtain a TIN applies in the case of dependents born after November 30, 1996.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

19. TREATMENT OF FINANCIAL ASSET SECURITIZATION INVESTMENT TRUSTS (''FASITS'')

(Sec. 1621 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

An individual can own income-producing assets directly, or indirectly through an entity (i.e., a corporation, partnership, or trust). Where an individual owns assets through an entity (e.g., a corporation), the nature of the interest in the entity (e.g., stock of a corporation) is different than the nature of the assets held by the entity (e.g., assets of the corporation).

Securitization is the process of converting one type of asset into another and generally involves the use of an entity separate from the underlying assets. In the case of securitization of debt instruments, the instruments created in the securitization typically have different maturities and characteristics than the debt instruments that are securitized.

Entities used in securitization include entities that are subject to tax (e.g., a corporation), conduit entities that generally are not subject to tax (e.g., a partnership, grantor trust, or real estate mortgage investment conduit (''REMIC'')), or partial-conduit entities that generally are subject to tax only to the extent income is not distributed to owners (e.g., a trust, real estate investment trust (''REIT''), or regulated investment company (''RIC'')).

There is no statutory entity that facilitates the securitization of revolving, nonmortgage debt obligations.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

In general

The Senate amendment would create a new type of statutory entity called a ''financial asset securitization investment trust'' (''FASIT'') that facilitates the securitization of debt obligations such as credit card receivables, home equity loans, and auto loans. A FASIT generally will not be taxable; the FASIT's taxable income or net loss will flow through to the owner of the FASIT.

The ownership interest of a FASIT generally will be required to be entirely held by a single domestic C corporation. The Finance Committee expected that the Treasury Department will issue guidance on how this rule would apply to cases in which the entity that owns the FASIT joins in the filing of a consolidated return with other members of the group that wish to hold an ownership interest in the FASIT. In addition, a FASIT generally may hold only qualified debt obligations, and certain other specified assets, and will be subject to certain restrictions on its activities. An entity that qualifies as a FASIT can issue instruments that meet certain specified requirements and treat those instruments as debt for Federal income tax purposes. Instruments issued by a FASIT bearing yields to maturity over five percentage points above the yield to maturity on specified United States government obligations (i.e., ''high-yield interests'') must be held, directly or indirectly, only by domestic C corporations that are not exempt from income tax.

Qualification as a FASIT

In general.—To qualify as a FASIT, an entity must: (1) make an election to be treated as a FASIT for the year of the election and all subsequent years; (2) have assets substantially all of which (including assets that the FASIT is treated as owning because they support regular interests) are specified types called ''permitted assets;'' (3) have non-ownership interests be certain specified types of debt instruments called ''regular interests''; (4) have a single ownership interest which is held by an ''eligible holder''; and (5) not qualify as a RIC. Any entity, including a corporation, partnership, or trust may be treated as a FASIT. In addition, a segregated pool of assets may qualify as a FASIT.

Election to be a FASIT.—Once an election to be a FASIT is made, the election applies from the date specified in the election and all subsequent years until the entity ceases to be a FASIT. The manner of making the election to be a FASIT is to determined by the Secretary of the Treasury. If an election to be a FASIT is made after the initial year of an entity, all of the assets in the entity at the time of the FASIT election are deemed contributed to the FASIT at that time and,

accordingly, any gain (but not loss) on such assets will be recognized at that time.[60]

Ceasing to be a FASIT.—Once an entity ceases to be a FASIT, it is not a FASIT for that year or any subsequent year. Nonetheless, an entity can continue to be a FASIT where the Treasury Department determines that the entity inadvertently ceases to be a FASIT, steps are taken reasonably soon after it is discovered that the entity ceased being a FASIT so that it again qualifies as a FASIT, and the FASIT and its owner take those steps that the Treasury Department deems necessary. An entity will cease qualifying as a FASIT if the entity's owner ceases being an eligible corporation. Loss of FASIT status is to be treated as if all of the regular interests of the FASIT were retired and then reissued without the application of the rule which deems regular interests of a FASIT to be debt. The Finance Committee understood that this treatment could result in the creation of cancellation of indebtedness income where the new instruments deemed to be issued are treated as stock under general tax principles.

Permitted assets. In general.—For an entity or arrangement to qualify as a FASIT, substantially all of its assets must consist of the following ''permitted assets'': (1) cash and cash equivalents; (2) certain permitted debt instruments; (3) certain foreclosure property; (4) certain instruments or contracts that represent a hedge or guarantee of debt held or issued by the FASIT; (5) contract rights to acquire permitted debt instruments or hedges; and (6) a regular interest in another FASIT. A FASIT must meet the asset test at the 90th day after its formation and at all times thereafter. Permitted assets may be acquired at any time by a FASIT, including any time after its formation.

Permitted debt instruments.—A debt instrument will be a permitted asset only if the instrument is indebtedness for Federal income tax purposes including trade receivables, regular interests in a real estate mortgage investment conduit (REMIC), or regular interests issued by another FASIT and it bears (1) fixed interest or (2) variable interest of a type that relates to qualified variable rate debt (as defined in Treasury regulations prescribed under sec. 860G(a)(1)(B)). Except for cash equivalents, permitted debt obligations cannot be obligations issued, directly or indirectly, by the owner of the FASIT or a related person.

Foreclosure property.—Permitted assets include property acquired on default (or imminent default) of debt instruments, swap contracts, forward contracts, or similar contracts held by the FASIT that would be foreclosure property to a REIT (under sec. 856(e)) if the property that was acquired by foreclosure by the FASIT was real property or would be foreclosure property to a REIT but for certain leases entered into or construction performed (as described in sec. 856(e)(4)) while held by the FASIT.

Hedges.—Permitted assets include interest rate or foreign currency notional principal contracts, letters of credit, insurance, guarantees against payment defaults, notional principal contracts that are ''in the money,'' or other similar instruments as permitted under Treasury regulations, which are reasonably required to guarantee or hedge against the FASIT's risks associated with being the obligor of regular interests. An instrument is a hedge if it results in risk reduction as described in Treasury regulation section 1.1221-2.

''Regular interests'' of a FASIT.—Under the Senate amendment, ''regular interests'' of a FASIT, including ''high-yield interests,'' are treated as debt for Federal income tax purposes regardless of whether instruments with similar terms issued by non-FASITs might be characterized as equity under general tax principles. To be treated as a ''regular interest,'' an instrument must have fixed terms and must: (1) unconditionally entitle the holder to receive a specified principal amount; (2) pay interest that is based on (a) one or more rates that are fixed, (b) rates that measure contemporaneous variations in the cost of newly borrowed funds,[61] or (c) to the extent permitted by Treasury regulations, variable rates allowed to regular interests of a REMIC if the FASIT would otherwise qualify as a REMIC; (3) have a term to maturity of no more than 30 years, except as permitted by Treasury regulations; (4) be issued to the public with a premium of not more than 25 percent of its stated principal amount; and (5) have a yield to maturity determined on the date of issue of no more than five percentage points above the applicable Federal rate (AFR) for the calendar month in which the instrument is issued.

A FASIT also may issue high-yield debt instruments, which includes any debt instrument issued by a FASIT that meets the second and third conditions described above, so long as such interests are not held by a disqualified holder. A ''disqualified holder'' generally is any holder other than (1) a domestic C corporation that does not qualify as a RIC, REIT, REMIC, or cooperative[62] or (2) a dealer who acquires FASIT debt for resale to customers in the ordinary course of business. An excise tax is imposed at the highest corporate rate on a dealer if there is a change in dealer status or if the holding of the instrument is for investment purposes. A 31-day grace period is granted before ownership of an interest held by a dealer generally could be treated as held by the FASIT owner for investment purposes.

Permitted ownership holder.—A permitted holder of the ownership interest in a FASIT generally is a non-exempt domestic C corporation, other than a corporation that qualifies as a RIC, REIT, REMIC, or cooperative.

Transfers to non-permitted holders of high-yield interests

A transfer of a high-yield interest to a disqualified holder is to be ignored for Federal income tax purposes. Thus, such a transferor will continue to be liable for any taxes due with respect to the transferred interest.

Taxation of a FASIT

In general.—A FASIT generally is not subject to tax. Instead, all of the FASIT's assets and liabilities are treated as assets and liabilities of the FASIT's owner and any income, gain, deduction or loss of the FASIT is allocable directly to its owner. Accordingly, income tax rules applicable to a FASIT (e.g., related party rules, sec. 871(h), sec. 165(g)(2)) are to be applied in the same manner as they apply to the FASIT's owner. Any securities held by the FASIT that are treated as held by its owner are treated as held for investment. The taxable income of a FASIT is calculated using an accrual method of accounting. The constant yield method and principles that apply for purposes of determining OID accrual on debt obligations whose principal is subject to acceleration apply to all debt obligations held by a FASIT to calculate the FASIT's interest and discount income and premium deductions or adjustments. For this purpose, a FASIT's income does not include any income subject to the 100-percent penalty excise tax on prohibited transactions.

Income from prohibited transactions..—The owner of a FASIT is required to pay a penalty excise tax equal to 100 percent of net income derived from (1) an asset that is not a permitted asset, (2) any disposition of an asset other than a permitted disposition, (3) any income attributable to loans originated by the FASIT, and (4) compensation for services (other than fees for a waiver, amendment, or consent under permitted assets not acquired through foreclosure). A permitted disposition is any disposition of any permitted asset (1) arising from complete liquidation of a class of regular interests (i.e., a qualified liquidation[63]), (2) incident to the foreclosure, default, or imminent default of the asset, (3) incident to the bankruptcy or insolvency of the FASIT, (4) necessary to avoid a default on any indebtedness of the FASIT attributable to a default (or imminent default) on an asset of the FASIT, (5) to facilitate a clean-up call, (6) to substitute a permitted debt instrument for another such instrument, or (7) in order to reduce overcollateralization where a principal purpose of the disposition was not to avoid recognition of gain arising from an increase in its market value after its acquisition by the FASIT. Notwithstanding this rule, the owner of a FASIT may currently deduct its losses incurred in prohibited transactions in computing its taxable income for the year of the loss.

Taxation of interests in the FASIT

Taxation of holders of regular interests.—In general.—A holder of a regular interest, including a high-yield interest, is taxed in the same manner as a holder of any other debt instrument, except that the regular interest holder is required to account for income relating to the interest on an accrual method of accounting, regardless of the method of accounting otherwise used by the holder.[64]

High-yield interests.—Holders of high-yield interests are not allowed to use net operating losses to offset any income derived from the high-yield debt. Any net operating loss carryover shall be computed by disregarding any income arising by reason of the disallowed loss.

In addition, a transfer of a high-yield interest to a disqualified holder is not recognized for Federal income tax purposes such that the transferor will continue to be taxed on the income from the high-yield interest unless the transferee provides the transferor with an affidavit that the transferee is not a disqualified person or the Treasury Secretary determines that the high-yield interest is no longer held by a disqualified person and a corporate tax has been paid on the income from the high-yield interest while it was held by a disqualified person.[65] High-yield interests may be held without a corporate tax being imposed on the income from the high-yield interest where the interest is held by a dealer in securities who acquired such high-yield interest for sale in the ordinary course of his business as a securities

[60] The Senate amendment provided transitional relief under which gain in pre-effective date entities that make a FASIT election may be deferred.

[61] Variable interest rates that would meet this standard include variable interest rates described in Treasury Income Tax Regulations 1.860G-1(a)(3).

[62] The Senate amendment treats cooperatives as disqualified holders since cooperatives, like RICs and REITs, are treated as pass-through entities and, also like the owners of RICs and REITs, the cooperative's members and patrons need not be C corporations.

[63] for this purpose, a ''qualified liquidation'' has the same meaning as it does purposes of the exemption from the tax on prohibited transactions of a REMIC in section 860F(a)(4).

[64] Regular interests in a FASIT 95 percent or more of whose assets are real estate mortgages are treated as real estate assets where relevant (e.g., secs. 856, 593, 7701(a)(19)).

[65] Under this rule, no high-yield interests will be treated as issued where the FASIT directly issues such interests to a disqualified holder.

dealer. In such a case, a corporate tax is imposed on such a dealer if his reason for holding the high-yield interest changes to investment. There is a presumption that the dealer has not changed his intent for holding high-yield instruments to investment for the first 31 days he holds such interests unless such holding is part of a plan to avoid the restriction on holding of high-yield interests by disqualified persons.

Where a pass-through entity (other than a FASIT) issues either debt or equity instruments that are secured by regular interests in a FASIT and such instruments bear a yield to maturity greater than the yield on the regular iterests and the applicable Federal rate plus five percentage points (determined on date that the pass-through entity acquires the regular interests in the FASIT) and the pass-through entity issued such debt or equity with a principal purpose of avoiding the rule that high-yield interests be held by corporations, then an excise tax is imposed on the pass-through entity at a rate equal to the highest corporate rate on the income of any holder of such instrument attributable to the regular interests.

Taxation of holder of ownership interest.—All of the FASIT's assets and liabilities are treated as assets and liabilities of the holder of a FASIT ownership interest and that owner takes into account all of the FASIT's income, gain, deduction, or loss in computing its taxable income or net loss for the taxable year. The character of the income to the holder of an ownership interest is the same as its character to the FASIT, except tax-exempt interest is taken into income of the holder as ordinary income.[66]

Losses on assets contributed to the FASIT are not allowed upon their contribution, but may be allowed to the FASIT owner upon their disposition by the FASIT. A special rule provides that the holder of a FASIT ownership interest cannot offset income or gain from the FASIT ownership interest with any other losses. Any net operating loss carryover of the FASIT owner shall be computed by disregarding any income arising by reason arising by reason of a disallowed loss.

For purposes of the alternative minimum tax, the owner's taxable income is determined without regard to the minimum FASIT income. The alternative minimum taxable income of the FASIT owner cannot be less than the FASIT income for that year, and the alternative minimum tax net operating loss deduction is computed without regard to the minimum FASIT income.

Transfers to FASITs

Gain generally is recognized immediately by the owner of the FASIT upon the transfer of assets to a FASIT. Assets that are acquired by the FASIT from someone other than its owner are treated as if they were acquired by the owner and then contributed to the FASIT. In addition, any assets of the FASIT owner or a related person that are used to support[67] FASIT regular interests are treated as contributed to the FASIT and, thus, any gain on any such assets also will be recognized at the earliest date that such assets support any FASIT's regular interests.[68] To the extent provided by Treasury regulations, gain recognition on the contributed assets may be deferred until such assets support regular interests issued by the FASIT or any indebtedness of the owner or related person. These regulations my adjust other statutory FASIT provisions to the extent such provisions are inconsistent with such regulations. For example, such regulations may disqualify certain assets as permitted assets. The basis of any FASIT assets is increased by the amount of the taxable gain recognized on the contribution of the assets to the FASIT.

Valuation rules

In general, except in the case of debt instruments, the value of FASIT assets is their fair market value. In the case of debt instruments that are traded on an established securities market, then the market price will be used for purposes of determining the amount of gain realized upon contribution of such assets to a FASIT. Nonetheless, the Senate amendment contained special rules for valuing other debt instruments for purposes of computing gain on the transfer to a FASIT. Under these rules, the value of such debt instruments is the sum of the present values of the reasonably expected cash flows from such obligations discounted over the weighted average life of such assets. The discount rate is 120 percent of the applicable Federal rate, compounded semiannually, or such other rate that the Treasury Secretary shall prescribe by regulations. For purposes of determining the value of a pool of revolving loan accounts having substantially the same terms, each extension of credit (other than the accrual of interest) is treated as a separate debt instrument and the maturity of the instruments is determined using the reasonably anticipated periodic payment rate at which principal payments will be made as a proportion of their aggregate outstanding principal assuming that payments are applied to the earliest credit extensions. The Finance Committee understood that reasonably expected cash flows from loans will reflect nonpayment (i.e., losses), early payments (i.e., prepayments), and reasonable costs of servicing the loans. This value shall be used in determining the amount of gain realized upon the contribution of assets to a FASIT even though that value may be different than the value of such assets would be applying a willing buyer/willing seller standard.

Related person

For purposes of the FASIT rules, a person is related to another person if that person bears a relationship to the other person specified in sections 267(b) or 707(b)(1), using a 20-percent ownership test instead of the 50-percent test, or such persons are engaged in trades or businesses under common control as determined under sections 52(a) or (b).

Related amendments

For purposes of the wash sale rule (sec. 1091), an ownership interest of a FASIT is treated as a ''security.'' In addition, an ownership interest in a FASIT and a residual interest in a pool of debt obligations that are substantially similar to the debt obligations in the FASIT shall be treated as ''substantially identical stock or securities''. Finally, the wash sale period begins six months before, and ends six months after, the sale of the ownership interest of the FASIT.

Effective date

The Senate amendment would take effect on the date of enactment. The Senate amendment provided a special transition rule for entities (e.g., a trust whose interests are taxed like a partnership) that were in existence on June 10, 1996, that subsequently elect to be a FASIT (called a ''pre-effective date FASIT''). Under the special transitional rule, gain is not recognized on property contributed, or deemed contributed, to the FASIT to the extent that any such property is allocable to interests issued by a ''pre-effective date FASIT'' (called a ''pre-FASIT interest''). The portion of such property that is allocable to pre-FASIT interests is to be determined by the Treasury Secretary, except that the property of the entity allocable to ''pre-FASIT interests'' shall not be less than 107 percent of the aggregate principal amounts of outstanding ''pre-FASIT interests.''

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment with the following changes and clarifications:

The conference agreement modifies the rule under which property that is acquired by a FASIT from someone other than the FASIT's owner or a person related to the FASIT's owner is treated as being first acquired by the FASIT's owner who then transfers that asset to the FASIT. The conference modification would clarify that the deemed acquisition by the FASIT's owner would be for the FASIT's cost in acquiring that asset from the non-owner or related person.

The conference agreement makes a technical modification to the rule which deems gain to be recognized on assets held by the owner of the FASIT or a related person that support any regular interest of the FASIT to clarify that the gain will be deemed realized to the related person when the assets which support a regular interest in the FASIT is held by that related person.

The conference agreement clarifies that the taxable income of the holder of the ownership interest or a high-yield interest, that may not be offset by non-FASIT losses, includes gain and loss from the sale of the ownership interest or high-yield interest. In addition, the conference agreement coordinates the rule that limits a taxpayer's ability to offset REMIC excess inclusion income against net operating losses with this similar rule under the FASIT provisions.

The conference agreement provides that the taxable income of a holder of a FASIT ownership interest cannot be less than the taxable income with respect to the FASIT interest applies to any consolidated group of corporations of which the holder is a member as if the group were a single taxpayer.

The conference agreement makes a technical modification to the wording of a waiver of the rule that treats transfers of high-yield interest to disqualified persons as being ineffective such that the income for such high-yield interests will remain includable in the gross income of the transferor in computing its tax.

The conference agreement limits the rule of the Senate amendment that imposes a corporate tax on a pass-thru entity that issues a debt or equity interest that is supported by a regular interest in a FASIT and has high yield to cases where a principal purpose of such arrangement is the avoidance of the restriction that high-yield interests be held only by qualified holders.

The conference agreement modifies the rule of the Senate amendment which deals with terminations of a FASIT to provide that such terminations become effective on the date of the termination, instead of the beginning of the FASIT's taxable year in which the termination occurs.

The conference agreement provides that an asset which was a permitted asset at the time that it was acquired by the FASIT shall not be treated as an interest in the FASIT,

[66] Ownership interests in a FASIT 95 percent or more of whose assets are real estate mortgages are treated as real estate assets where relevant (e.g., secs. 856, 593, 7701(a)(19)).

[67] For this purpose, supporting assets includes any assets that are reasonably expected to directly or indirectly pay regular interests or to otherwise secure or collateralize regular interests. In the case where there is a commitment to make additional contributions to a FASIT, any such assets will not be treated as supporting the FASIT until they are transferred to the FASIT or set aside for such use.

[68] In the case of a securities dealer which may be an eligible holder, the Finance Committee understood that the mark-to-market rule of section 475 will not apply to an ownership interest in a FASIT or assets held in the FASIT.

except to the extent provided by regulation issued by the Treasury Secretary. Thus, an instrument acquired by the FASIT as a hedge (e.g., an interest rate swap) will not later become an interest in the FASIT when there is later an obligation by the FASIT to make payments to the counterparty under that hedge instrument.

The conference agreement clarifies that a FASIT may issue regular instruments with fixed rates or, except as provided by regulations issued by Treasury Secretary, variable rates permitted to be issued by real estate mortgage investment conduits (''REMICs'').

The conference agreement clarifies that ''interest-only instruments'' (''IOs'') may be issued by a FASIT as high-yield instruments if the instrument makes payments which consist of a specified portion of the interest payments in permitted assets and that portion does not vary throughout the life of that instrument.

The conference agreement clarifies that foreclosure property, which may be permitted asset of a FASIT, includes property acquired by foreclosure even though the acquired property is not real property. The conference agreement also grants the Treasury Secretary the power to reduce by regulations the two-year period that foreclosure property may be held as a permitted asset of the FASIT.

The conference agreement clarifies the application of section 475 to a securities dealer that holds an ownership interest in a FASIT. Under this clarification, except as provided in Treasury regulations, if section 475 applies to securities before their transfer to the FASIT, section 475 will continue to apply to securities that have been transferred (or deemed transferred) to the FASIT, except that the amount realized under the mark-to-market rule of section 475 shall be the greater of the securities' value under present law or their value determined under the special valuation rules applicable to FASITs.

The conference agreement deletes in technical amendments the rules that treat an ownership interests in a FASIT (a) as a noncapital asset of a bank or (b) as a permitted asset of a real estate investment trust (''REIT'').

The conference agreement provides that a regular interest, but not an ownership interest, in a FASIT is treated as a qualified mortgage of a real estate mortgage investment conduit (''REMIC'') if 95 percent or more of the value of the FASIT's assets consists, at all times, of real estate mortgages.

The conference agreement clarifies that a regular interest, but not an ownership interest, in a FASIT is treated as a qualifying asset for purposes of the definition of a domestic building and loan association so long as at least 95 percent of the assets of the FASIT are, at all times, qualified assets.

The conference agreement delays the effective date of the provision from the date of enactment of the provision to September 1, 1997, and extends the special transitional rule to any entity created before that date. The conferees expect that, prior to September 1, 1997, Treasury will issue guidance on how the ownership rule would apply to cases in which the entity that owns the FASIT joins in the filing of a consolidated return with other members of the group that wish to hold an ownership interest in the FASIT.

20. REVISION OF EXPATRIATION TAX RULES

(Secs. 1631–1633 of the Senate amendment.)

Present law

Individuals who relinquish U.S. citizenship with a principal purpose of avoiding U.S. taxes are subject to special tax provisions for 10 years after expatriation. The determination of who is a U.S. citizen for tax purposes, and when such citizenship is lost, is governed by the provisions of the Immigration and nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. section 1401, et. seq.

An individual who relinquishes his U.S. citizenship with a principal purpose of avoiding U.S. taxes is subject to tax on his or her U.S. source income at the rates applicable to U.S. citizens, rather than the rates applicable to other non-resident aliens, for 10 years after expatriation. In addition, the scope of items treated as U.S. source income for this purpose is broader than those items generally considered to be U.S. source income. For example, gains on the sale of personal property located in the United States and gains on the sale or exchange of stock or securities issued by U.S. persons are treated as U.S. source income. This alternative method of income taxation applies only if it results in a higher U.S. tax liability.

Rules applicable in the estate and gift tax contexts expand the categories of items that are subject to the gift and estate taxes in the case of a U.S. citizen who relinquished citizenship with a principal purpose of avoiding U.S. taxes within the 10-year period ending on the date of the transfer. For example, U.S. property held through a foreign corporation controlled by such individual and related persons is included in his or her estate and gifts of U.S.-situs intangible property by such individual are subject to the gift tax.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment replaces the present-law expatriation income tax rules with rules that generally subject certain U.S. citizens who relinquish their U.S. citizenship and certain long-term U.S. residents who relinquish their U.S. residency to tax on the net unrealized gain in their property as if such property were sold for fair market value on the expatriation date. The Senate amendment modifies the present-law expatriation estate and gift tax rules to apply to certain long-term U.S. residents and to provide that, for purposes of applying such rules, certain persons would be treated as having relinquished citizenship or residency for a principal purpose of avoiding U.S. taxes. The Senate amendment also imposes information reporting and sharing obligations with respect to U.S. citizens who relinquish their citizenship and long-term residents whose U.S. residency is terminated.

Effective date.—The provision generally is effective for U.S. citizens whose date of relinquishment of citizenship occurs on or after February 6, 1995 and for long-term residents who terminate their U.S. residency on or after such date.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement does not include the Senate amendment provision.

21. MODIFY TREATMENT OF FOREIGN TRUSTS

(Secs. 411–417 of H.R. 3286.)

Present law

Inbound grantor trusts with foreign grantors

Under the grantor trust rules (secs. 671–679), a grantor that retains certain rights or powers generally is treated as the owner of the trust's assets without regard to whether the grantor is a domestic or foreign person. Under these rules, U.S. trust beneficiaries are not subject to U.S. tax on distributions from a trust where a foreign grantor is treated as owner of the trust, even though no tax may be imposed on the trust income by any jurisdiction. In addition, a special rule provides that if a U.S. beneficiary of an inbound grantor trust transfers property to the foreign grantor by gift, that U.S. beneficiary is treated as the grantor of the trust to the extent of the transfer.

Foreign trusts that are no grantor trusts

Under the accumulation distribution rules (which generally apply to distributions from a trust in excess of the trust's distributable net income for the taxable year), a distribution by a foreign nongrantor trust of previously accumulated income generally is taxed at the U.S. beneficiary's average marginal rate for the prior 5 years, plus interest (secs. 666 and 667). Interest is computed at a fixed annual rate of 6 percent, with no compounding (sec. 668). If adequate records of the trust are not available to determine the proper application of the rules relating to accumulation distributions to any distribution from a trust, the distribution is treated as an accumulation distribution out of income earned during the first year of the trust (sec. 666(d)).

If a foreign nongrantor trust makes a loan to one of its beneficiaries, the principal of such a loan generally is not taxable as income to the beneficiary.

Outbound foreign grantor trusts with U.S. grantors

Under the grantor trust rules, a U.S. person that transfers property to a foreign trust generally is treated as the owner of the portion of the trust comprising that property for any taxable year in which there is a U.S. beneficiary of any portion of the trust (sec. 679(a)). This treatment generally does not apply, however, to transfers by reason of death, to transfers made before the transferor became a U.S. person, or to transfers that represent sales or exchanges of property at fair market value where gain is recognized to the transferor.

Residence of trusts

A trust is treated as foreign if it is not subject to U.S. income taxation on its income that is neither derived from U.S. sources nor effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business. Thus, if a trust is taxed in a manner similar to a nonresident alien individual, it is considered to be a foreign trusts. Any other trust is treated as domestic.

Section 1491 generally imposes a 35-percent excise tax on a U.S. person that transfers appreciated property to certain foreign entities, including a foreign trust. In the case of a domestic trust that changes its situs and becomes a foreign trust, it is unclear whether property has been transferred from a U.S. person to a foreign entity and, thus, whether the transfer is subject to the excise tax.

Information reporting and penalties related to foreign trusts

Any U.S. person that creates a foreign trust or transfers money or property to a foreign trust is required to report that event to the Treasury Department without regard to whether the trust is a grantor or a nongrantor trust. Similarly, any U.S. person that transfers property to a foreign trust that has one or more U.S. beneficiaries is required to report annually to the Treasury Department. In addition, any U.S. person that makes a transfer described in section 1491 is required to report the transfer to the Treasury Department.

Any person that fails to file a required report with respect to the creation of, or a transfer to, a foreign trust may be subject to a penalty of 5 percent of the amount transferred to the foreign trust. Similarly, any person that fails to file a required annual report with respect to a foreign trust with U.S. beneficiaries may be subject to a penalty of 5 percent of the value of the corpus of the trust at the close of the taxable year. The maximum amount of the penalty imposed under either case may not exceed $1,000. A reasonable cause exception is available.

Reporting of foreign gifts

There is no requirement to report gifts or bequests from foreign sources.

House bill

No provision. However, sections 411–417 of H.R. 3286 (Adoption Promotion and Stability Act of 1996) contains the following provisions:

Inbound grantor trusts with foreign grantors

The House bill generally applies only to the extent it results, directly or indirectly, in income or other amounts (if any) being currently taken into account in computing the income of a U.S. citizen or resident or a domestic corporation. Certain exceptions apply to this rule. Under one exception, the grantor trust rules continue to apply to the portion of a trust where that portion of the trust is revocable by the grantor either without approval of another person or with the consent of a related or subordinate party who is subservient to the grantor. Under another exception, the grantor trust rules continue to apply to the portion of a trust where the only amounts distributable from that portion during the lifetime of the grantor are to the grantor or the grantor's spouse. The general rule denying grantor trust status does not apply to trusts established to pay compensation, and certain trusts in existence as of September 19, 1995 provided that such trust is treated as owned by the grantor under section 676 or 677 (other than sec. 677(a)(3)).[69] In addition, the grantor trust rules generally apply where the grantor is a controlled foreign corporation (as defined in sec. 957). Finally, the grantor trust rules continue to apply in determining whether a foreign corporation is characterized as a passive foreign investment company (''PFIC''). Thus, a foreign corporation cannot avoid PFIC status by transferring its assets to a grantor trust.

If a U.S. beneficiary, or a family member of such a beneficiary,[70] of an inbound grantor trust transfers property to the foreign grantor, such beneficiary generally is treated as a grantor of a portion of the trust to the extent of the transfer. This rule applies without regard to whether the foreign grantor is otherwise treated as the owner of any portion of such trust. However, this rule does not apply if the transfer is a sale of the property for full and adequate consideration or if the transfer is a gift that qualifies for the annual exclusion described in section 2503(b).

The House bill provides a special rule that allows the Secretary of the Treasury to recharacterize a transfer, directly or indirectly, from a partnership or foreign corporation which the transferee treats as a gift or bequest, to prevent the avoidance of the purpose of section 672(f).[71] In a case where a foreign person (that would be treated as the owner of a trust but for the above rule) actually pays tax on the income of the trust to a foreign country, it is anticipated that Treasury regulations will provide that, for foreign tax credit purposes, U.S. beneficiaries that are subject to U.S. income tax on the same income will be treated as having paid the foreign taxes that are paid by the foreign grantor. Any resulting foreign tax credits would be subject to applicable foreign tax credit limitations.

The House bill provides a transition rule for any domestic trust that has a foreign grantor that is treated as the owner of the trust under present law, but becomes a nongrantor trust under the bill. If such a trust becomes a foreign trust before January 1, 1997, or if the assets of such a trust are transferred to a foreign trust before that date, such trust is exempt from the excise tax on transfers to a foreign trust otherwise imposed by section 1491. However, the House bill's new reporting requirements and penalties are applicable to such a trust and its beneficiaries. In addition, the assets of such a trust will be treated as if they were recontributed to a nongrantor trust by the foreign grantor, with no recognition of gain or loss, on the date the trust ceases to be treated as a grantor trust. The nongrantor trust will have the same basis in such assets as did the grantor on the date the trust ceases to be treated as a grantor trust.

Effective date.—The provisions described in this part are effective on the date of enactment.

Foreign trusts that are not grantor trusts

The House bill changes the interest rate applicable to accumulation distributions from foreign trusts from simple interest at a fixed rate of 6 percent to compound interest determined in the same manner as interest imposed on underpayments of tax under section 6621(a)(2). Simple interest is accrued at the rate of 6 percent through 1995. Beginning on January 1, 1996, however, compound interest based on the underpayment rate is imposed not only on tax amounts determined under the accumulation distribution rules but also on the total simple interest for pre-1996 periods, if any. For purposes of computing the interest charge, the accumulation distribution is allocated proportionately to prior trust years in which the trust has undistributed net income (and the beneficiary receiving the distribution was a U.S. citizen or resident), rather than to the earliest of such years. An accumulation distribution is treated as reducing proportionately the undistributed net income from prior years.

In the case of a loan of cash or marketable securities by the foreign trust to a U.S. grantor or a U.S. beneficiary (or a U.S. person related to such grantor or beneficiary[72]), except, to the extent provided by Treasury regulations, the House bill treats the full amount of the loan as distributed to the grantor or beneficiary. It is expected that Treasury regulations will provide an exception from this treatment for loans with arm's-length terms. In applying this exception, it is further expected that consideration be given to whether there is a reasonable expectation that a loan will be repaid. In addition, any subsequent transaction between the trust and the original borrower regarding the principal of the loan (e.g., repayment) is disregarded for all purposes of the Code. This provision does not apply to loans made to persons that are exempt from U.S. income tax.

Effective date.—The provision to modify the interest charge on accumulation distributions applies to distributions after the date of enactment. The provision with respect to loans to U.S. grantors, U.S. beneficiaries or a related U.S. person related to such a grantor or beneficiary applies to loans made after September 19, 1995.

Outbound foreign grantor trusts with U.S. grantors

The House bill makes several modifications to the general rule of section 679(a)(1) under which a U.S. person who transfer property to a foreign trust generally is treated as the owner of the portion of the trust comprising that property for any taxable year in which there is a U.S. beneficiary of the trust. The House bill also contains an amendment to conform the definition of certain foreign corporations the income of which is deemed to be accumulated for the benefit of a U.S. beneficiary to the definition controlled foreign corporations (as defined in sec. 957(a)).

Sale or exchange at market value.—Present law contains several exceptions to grantor trust treatment under section 679(a)(1) described above. Under one of the exceptions, grantor trust treatment does not result from a transfer of property by a U.S. person to a foreign trust in the form of a sale or exchange at fair market value where gain is recognized to the transferor. In determining whether the trust paid fair markets value to the transferor, the House bill provides that obligations issued (or, to the extent provided by regulations, guaranteed) by the trust, by any grantor or beneficiary of the trust, or by any person related to any grantor or beneficiary[73] (referred to as ''trust obligations'') generally are not taken into account except as provided in Treasury regulations. It is expected that Treasury regulations will provide an exception from this treatment for loans with arm's-length terms. In applying this exception, it is further expected that consideration be given to whether there is a reasonable expectation that a loan will be repaid. Principal payments by the trust on any such trust obligations generally will reduce the portion of the trust attributable to the property transferred (i.e., the portion of which the transferor is treated as the grantor).

Other transfers.—The House bill adds new exception to the general rule of section 679(a)(1) described above. Under the House bill, a transfer of property to certain charitable trusts is exempt from the application of the rules treating foreign trusts with U.S. grantors and U.S. beneficiaries as grantor trusts.

Transferors or beneficiaries who become U.S. persons.—The House bill applies the rule of section 679(a)(1) to certain foreign persons who transfer property to a foreign trust and subsequently become U.S. persons. A nonresident alien individual who transfers property, directly or indirectly, to a foreign trust and then becomes a resident of the United States within 5 years after the transfer generally is treated as making a transfer to the foreign trust on the individual's U.S. residency starting date (as defined in sec. 7701(b)(2)(A)). The amount of the deemed transfer is the portion of the trust (including undistributed earnings) attributable to the property previously transferred. Consequently, the individual generally is treated under section 679(a)(1) as the owner of that portion of the trust in any taxable year in which the trust has U.S. beneficiaries.

Outbound trust migrations.—The House bill applies the rules of section 679(a)(1) to a U.S. person who transferred property to a domestic trust if the trust subsequently becomes a foreign trust while the transferor is still alive. Such a person is deemed to make a transfer to the foreign trust on the date of the migration. The amount of the deemed transfer is the portion of the trust (including undistributed earnings) attributable to the property previously transferred. Consequently, the individual generally is treated

[69] The exception does not apply to the portion of any such trust attributable to any transfers made after September 19, 1995.

[70] For this purpose, a family member is generally defined as a brother, sister, spouse, ancestor or lineal descendant.

[71] See discussion below for reporting requirements under the House bill with respect to certain foreign gifts and bequests received by a U.S. person.

[72] For this purpose, a person generally would be treated as related to the grantor or beneficiary if the relationship between such person and the grantor or beneficiary would result in a disallowance of losses under section 267 or 707(b), except that in applying section 267(c)(4) an individual's family includes the spouses of the members of the family.

[73] For this purpose, a person is treated as related to the grantor or beneficiary if the relationship between such person and the grantor or beneficiary would result in a disallowance of losses under section 267 or 707(b), except that in applying section 267(c)(4) an individual's family includes the spouses of the members of the family.

under the rules of section 679(a)(1) as the owner of that portion of the trust in any taxable year in which the trust has U.S. beneficiaries.

Effective date.—The provisions to amend section 679 apply to transfers of property after February 6, 1995.

Anti-abuse regulatory authority

The House bill includes an anti-abuse rule which authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to issue regulations, on or after the date of enactment, that may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the rules applicable to estates, trusts and beneficiaries, including regulations to prevent the avoidance of those purposes.

Effective date.—The provision is effective on the date of enactment.

Residence of trusts

The House bill establishes a two-part objective test for determining for tax purposes whether a trust is foreign or domestic. If both parts of the test are satisfied, the trust is treated as domestic. Under the first part of the proposed test, if a U.S. court (i.e., Federal, State, or local) exercises primary supervision over the administration of the trust, the trust is treated as domestic. Under the second part of the proposed test, in order for a trust to be treated as domestic, one or more U.S. fiduciaries must have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

Under the House bill, if a domestic trust changes its situs and becomes a foreign trust, the trust is treated as having made a transfer of its assets to a foreign trust and is subject to the 35-percent excise tax imposed by present-law section 1491 unless one of the exceptions to this excise tax is applicable.

Effective date.—The provision to modify the treatment of a trust as a U.S. person applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996. In addition, if the trustee of a trust so elects, the provision would apply to taxable years ending after the date of enactment. The amendment to section 1491 is effective on the date of enactment.

Information reporting and penalties relating to foreign trusts

The House bill generally requires the grantor, transferor or executor (i.e., the ''responsible party'') to file information returns with the Treasury Department upon the occurrence of certain events. The term ''reportable event'' generally means the creation of any foreign trust by a U.S. person, the direct and indirect transfer of any money or property to a foreign trust, including a transfer by reason of death, and the death of a U.S. citizen or resident if any portion of a foreign trust was included in the gross estate of the decedent. In addition, a U.S. owner of any portion of a foreign trust generally is required to ensure that the trust files an annual return to provide full accounting of all the trust activities for the taxable year. Finally, any U.S. person that receives (directly or indirectly) any distribution from a foreign trust generally is required to file a return to report the name of the trust, the aggregate amount of the distributions received, and other information that the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

Under the House bill, a person that fails to provide the required notice or return in cases involving the transfer of property to a new or existing foreign trust, or a distribution by a foreign trust to a U.S. person, is subject to an initial penalty equal to 35 percent of the gross reportable amount. A failure to provide an annual reporting of trust activities will result in an initial penalty equal to 5 percent of the gross reportable amount.

The House bill provides that if a U.S. owner of any portion of a foreign trust fails to appoint a limited U.S. agent to accept service of process with respect to any requests and summons by the Secretary of the Treasury in connection with the tax treatment of any items related to the trust, the Secretary may determine the tax consequences of amounts to be taken into account under the grantor trust rules. In cases where adequate records are not provided to the Secretary to determine the proper treatment of any distributions from a foreign trust, the distribution is includible in the gross income of the U.S. distributee and is treated as an accumulation distribution from the middle year of a foreign trust (i.e., computed by taking the number of years that the trust has been in existence divided by 2) for purposes of computing the interest charge applicable to such distribution, unless the foreign trust elects to have a U.S. agent for the limited purpose of accepting service of process (as described above).

Under the House bill, a person that fails to provide the required notice or return in cases involving the transfer of property to a new or existing foreign trust, or a distribution by a foreign trust to a U.S. person, is subject to an initial penalty equal to 35 percent of the gross reportable amount (generally the value of the property involved in the transaction). A failure to provide an annual reporting of trust activities will result in an initial penalty equal to 5 percent of the gross reportable amount. An additional $10,000 penalty is imposed for continued failure for each 30-day period (or fraction thereof) beginning 90 days after the Treasury Department notifies the responsible party of such failure. Such penalties are subject to a reasonable cause exception. In no event will the total amount of penalties exceed the gross reportable amount.

Effective date.—The reporting requirements and applicable penalties generally apply to reportable events occurring or distributions received after the date of enactment. The annual reporting requirement and penalties applicable to U.S. grantors apply to taxable years of such persons beginning after December 31, 1995.

REPORTING OF FOREIGN GIFTS

The House bill generally requires any U.S. person (other than certain tax-exempt organizations) that receives purported gifts or bequests from foreign sources total more than $10,000 during the taxable year to report them to the Treasury Department. The threshold for this reporting requirement is indexed for inflation. The definition of a gift to a U.S. person for this purpose excludes amounts that are qualified tuition or medical payments made on behalf of the U.S. person, as defined for gift tax purposes (sec. 2503(e)(2)), and amounts that are distributions to a U.S. beneficiary of a foreign trust if such amounts are properly disclosed under the reporting requirements of the House bill. If the U.S. person fails, without reasonable cause, to report foreign gifts as required, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to determine the tax treatment of the unreported gifts. It is intended that the Treasury Secretary's exercise of its authority to make such a determination will be subject to judicial review under a arbitrary or capricious standard, which provides a high degree of deference to such determination. In addition, the U.S. person is subject to a penalty equal to 5 percent of the amount of the gift for each month that the failure continues, with the total penalty not to exceed 25 percent of such amount.

Effective date.—The provision applies to amounts received after the date of enactment.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement adopts the House bill provision of H.R. 3286 with one modification and two clarifications.

If a U.S. beneficiary of an unbound grantor trust transfers property to a foreign grantor, such beneficiary generally is treated as a grantor of a portion of the trust to the extent of the transfer. Under the conference agreement, this provision generally does not apply transfers by a family member of such a beneficiary.

The conferees wish to clarify that in exercising its regulatory authority to treat a U.S. trust as a foreign trust for purposes of information reporting purposes, the Secretary of the Treasury will take into account the information that such a trust reported under the domestic trust reporting rules.

Under the House bill, the section 1491 excise tax applies when a domestic trust changes its situs and becomes a foreign trust after the date of enactment. In addition, under the House bill, a trustee may elect to apply the new objective test for determining the residence of a trust to the taxable year of the trust ending after the date of enactment. The conferees wish to clarify that when a trustee makes this election, and thereby changes the situs of a trust from domestic to foreign, the trust is treated as having made an outbound transfer of its assets on the date of such election. Consequently, the section 1491 excise tax will apply to such a transfer.

22. TREATMENT OF BAD DEBT DEDUCTIONS OF THRIFT INSTITUTIONS

(Sec. 401 of the H.R. 3103 and sec. 611 of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3103.)

Present law

Generally, a taxpayer engaged in a trade or business may deduct the amount of any debt that becomes wholly or partially worthless during the year (the ''specific charge-off'' method of sec. 166). Certain thrift institutions (building and loan associations, mutual savings banks, or cooperative banks) are allowed deductions for bad debts under rules more favorable than those granted to other taxpayers (and more favorable than the rules applicable to other financial institutions). Qualified thrift institutions may compute deductions for bad debts using either the specific charge-off method or the reserve method of section 593. To qualify for this reserve method, a thrift institution must meet an asset test, requiring that 60 percent of its assets consist of ''qualifying assets'' (generally cash, government obligations, and loans secured by residential real property). This percentage must be computed at the close of the taxable year, or at the option of the taxpayer, as the annual average of monthly, quarterly, or semiannual computations of similar percentages.

If a thrift institution uses the reserve method of accounting, it must establish and maintain a reserve for bad debts and charge actual losses against the reserve, and is allowed a deduction for annual additions to restore the reserve to its permitted balance. Under section 593, a thrift institution annually may elect to calculate its addition to its bad debt reserve under either (1) the ''percentage of taxable income'' method applicable only to thrift institutions, or (2) the ''experience'' method that also is available to small banks.

Under the ''percentage of taxable income'' method, a thrift institution generally is allowed a deduction for an addition to its bad debt reserve equal to 8 percent of its taxable income (determined without regard to this deduction and with additional adjustments). Under the experience method, a thrift institution generally is allowed a deduction for

an addition to its bad debt reserve equal to the greater of: (1) an amount based on its actual average experience for losses in the current and five preceding taxable years, or (2) an amount necessary to restore the reserve to its balance as of the close of the base year. For taxable years beginning before 1988, the ''base year'' was the last taxable year before the most recent adoption of the experience method (i.e., generally, the last year the taxpayer was on the percentage of taxable income method). For taxable years beginning after 1987, the base year is the last taxable year beginning before 1988. Prior to 1988, computing bad debts under a ''base year'' rule allowed a thrift institution to claim a deduction for bad debts for an amount at least equal to the institution's actual losses that were charged off during the taxable year.

If a thrift institution becomes a commercial bank, or if the institution fails to satisfy the 60-percent qualified asset test, it is required to change its method of accounting for bad debts and, under proposed Treasury regulations, is required to recapture its bad debt reserve. The percentage-of-taxable-income portion of the reserve generally is included in income ratably over a 6-taxable year period. The experience method portion of the reserve is not restored to income if the former thrift institution qualifies as a small bank. If the former thrift institution is treated as a large bank, the experience method portion of the reserve is restored to income ratably over a 6-taxable year period, or under the 4-year recapture method or the cut-off method described above.

In addition, a thrift institution may be subject to a form of reserve recapture even if the institution continues to qualify for the percentage of taxable income method. Specifically, if a thrift institution distributes to its shareholders an amount in excess of its post-1951 earnings and profits, such excess is deemed to be distributed from the nonexperience potion of the institution's bad debt reserve and is restored to income. In the case of any distribution in redemption of stock or in partial or complete liquidation of an institution, the distribution is treated as first coming from the nonexperience potion of the bad debt reserves of the institution (sec. 593(e)).

House bill

No provision in H.R. 3448. Section 401 of H.R. 3103, the ''Health Coverage Availability and Affordability Act of 1996,'' as passed by the House of Representatives on March 28, 1996, contained the following provision.

Repeal of section 593

The bill repeals the section 593 reserve method of account for bad debts by thrift institutions, effective for taxable years beginning after 1995. Thrift institutions that would be treated as small banks (as determined under sec. 585(c)(2)) are allowed to utilize the experience method applicable to such institutions, while thrift institutions that are treated as large banks are required to use only the specific charge-off method.

Treatment of recapture of bad debt reserves

In general.—A thrift institution required to change its method of computing reserves for bad debts will treat such change as a change in a method of accounting, initiated by the taxpayer, and having been made with the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury. Any section 481(a) adjustment required to be taken into account with respect to such change generally will be determined solely with respect to the ''applicable excess reserves'' of the taxpayer. The amount of applicable excess reserves shall be taken into account ratably over a six-taxable year period, beginning with the first taxable year beginning after 1995, subject to the residential loan requirement described below. In the case of a thrift institution that becomes a large bank, the amount of the institution's applicable excess reserves generally is the excess of (1) the balance of its reserves described in section 593(c)(1) other than its supplemental reserve for losses on loans (i.e., its reserve for losses on qualifying real property loans and its reserve for losses on nonqualifying loans) as of the close of its last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1996, over (2) the balance of such reserves (i.e., its reserve for losses on qualifying real property loans and its reserve for losses on nonqualifying loans) as of the close of its last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1988 (i.e., the ''pre-1988 reserves''). Similar rules would apply to small banks.

The balance of the pre-1988 reserves is subject to the provisions of section 593(e) (requiring recapture in the case of certain excess distributions to, and redemptions of, shareholders). In addition, the balances of the pre-1988 reserve and the supplemental reserve will be treated as tax attributes to which section 381 applies. Certain internal reorganizations of a group of thrift institutions will not be treated as distributions to shareholders for purposes of section 593(e). Further, if a taxpayer no longer qualifies as a bank (as defined by sec. 581), the balances of the taxpayer's pre-1988 reserve and supplement reserves are restored to income ratably over a six-year period, beginning in the taxable year the taxpayer no longer qualifies as a bank.

Residential loan requirement.—Under a special rule, if the taxpayer meets the ''residential loan requirement'' for a taxable year, the recapture of the applicable excess reserves otherwise required to be taken into account as a section 481(a) adjustment for such year will be suspended. A taxpayer meets the residential loan requirement if, for the taxable year, the principal amount of residential loans made by the taxpayer during the year is not less than its base amount. The residential loan requirement is applicable only for taxable years that begin after December 31, 1995, and before January 1, 1998, and must be applied separately with respect to each such year.

Treatment of conversions to credit unions

The bill provides that if a thrift institution to which the repeal of section 593 applies becomes a credit union, the credit union will be treated as a institution that is not a bank and any section 481(a) adjustment required to be included in gross income will be treated as derived from an unrelated trade or business.

Effective date

The provision general is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995. The amendments to section 593(e) do not apply to certain distributions with respect to preferred stock.

Senate amendment

No provision in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3448. Section 611 of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3103, the ''Health Coverage Availability and Affordability Act of 1996,'' as passed by the Senate on April 23, 1996, contained a provision similar to the provision in the House-passed version of H.R. 3103.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement generally follows the provision in the House-and Senate-passed versions of H.R. 3103, with modifications. The following describes the provisions of the conference agreement.

Repeal of section 593

The conference agreement repeals the section 593 reserve method of accounting for bad debts by thrift institutions, effective for taxable years beginning after 1995. Thrift institutions that would be treated as small banks[74] are allowed to utilize the experience method applicable to such institutions, while thrift institutions that are treated as large banks are required to use only the specific charge-off method. Thus, the percentage of taxable income method of accounting for bad debts is no longer available for any financial institution. The conference agreement also repeals the following present-law provisions that only apply to thrift institutions to which section 593 applies: (1) the denial of a portion of certain tax credits to a thrift institution (sec. 50(d)(1)); (2) the special rules with respect to the foreclosure of property securing loans of a thrift institution (sec. 595); (3) the reduction in the dividends received reduction of a thrift institution (sec. 596); and (4) the ability of a thrift institution to use a net operating loss to offset its income from a residual interest in REMIC (sec. 860E(a)(2)).

Treatment of recapture of bad debt reserves

In general.—A thrift institution required to change its method of computing reserves for bad debts will treat such change as a change in a method of accounting initiated by the taxpayer, and having been made with the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury.[75] Any section 481(a) adjustment required to be taken into account with respect to such change generally will be determined solely with respect to the ''applicable excess reserves'' of the taxpayer. The amount of applicable excess reserves shall be taken into account ratably over a six-taxable year period, beginning with the first taxable year beginning after 1995, subject to the residential loan requirement described below. In the case of a thrift institution that becomes a ''large bank'' (as determined under sec. 585(c)(2)), the amount of the institution's applicable excess reserves generally is the excess of (1) the balance of its reserves described in section 593(c)(1) other than its supplemental reserve for losses on loans (i.e., its reserve for losses on qualifying real property loans and its reserve for losses on nonqualifying loans) as of the close of its last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1996, over (2) the balance of such reserves (i.e., its reserve for losses on qualifying real property loans and its reserve for losses on nonqualifying loans) as of the close of its last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1988 (i.e., the ''pre-1988 reserves'').[76] Thus, a thrift institution that is treated as a large bank generally is required to recapture its post-1987 additions to its bad debt reserves,

[74] Under present-law section 581, the definition of a ''bank'' includes a thrift institution.

[75] The provisions of the conference agreement will apply to a thrift institution that has a taxable year that begins after December 31, 1995, even if such taxable year is a short taxable year that comes to a close because the thrift institution is acquired by a non-thrift institution.

In addition, a thrift institution that uses a reserve method described in section 593 will be deemed to have changed its method of computing reserves for bad debts even though such institution will be allowed to use the reserve method of section 585. Similarly, a large thrift institution will be deemed to have changed its method of computing reserves for bad debts even through such institution used the experience-method portion of section 593 in lieu of the percentage-of-taxable-income method of section 593.

[76] The balance of a taxpayer's pre-1988 reserves is reduced if the taxpayer's loan portfolio had decreased since 1988. The permitted balance of a taxpayer's pre-1988 reserves is reduced by multiplying such balance by the ratio of the balance of the taxpayer's loans outstanding at the close of the last taxable beginning before 1996, to the balance of the taxpayer's loans outstanding at the close of the last taxable beginning before 1988. This reduction is required for both large and small banks.

whether such additions are made pursuant to the percentage of taxable income method or the experience method. The timing of this recapture may be delayed for a one- or two-year period to the extent the residential loan requirement described below applies.

In the case of a thrift institution that becomes a ''small bank'' (as determined under sec. 585(c)(2)), the amount of the institution's applicable excess reserves will be the excess of (1) the balance of its reserves described in section 593(c)(1) as of the close of its last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1996, over (2) the greater of the balance of: (a) its pre-1988 reserves or (b) what the institution's reserves would have been at the close of its last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1996, had the institution always used the experience method described in section 585(b)(2)(A) (i.e., the six-year average method). For purposes of the future application of section 585, the beginning balance of the small bank's reserve for its first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, will be the greater of the two amounts described in (2) in the preceding sentence, and the balance of the reserve at the close of the base year (for purposes of sec. 585(b)(2)(B)) will be the amount of its pre-1988 reserves. The residential loan requirement described below also applies to small banks. If such small bank later becomes a large bank, any section 481(a) adjustment amount required to be taken into account under section 585(c)(3) will not include any portion of the bank's pre-1988 reserve. Similarly, if the bank elects the cut-off method to implement its conversion to large bank status, the amount of the reserve against which the bank charges its actual losses will not include any portion of the bank's pre-1988 reserve and the amount by which the pre-1988 reserve exceeds actual losses will not be included in gross income.

The balance of the pre-1988 reserves is subject to the provisions of section 593(e), as modified by the conference agreement (requiring recapture in the case of certain excess distributions to, and redemptions of, shareholders). Thus, section 593(e) will apply to an institution regardless of whether the institution becomes a commercial bank or remains a thrift institution. In addition, the balances of the pre-1988 reserve and the supplemental reserve will be treated as tax attributes to which section 381 applies. The conferees expect that Treasury regulations will provide rules for the application of section 593(e) in the case of mergers, acquisitions, spin-offs, and other reorganizations of thrift and other institutions.[77] The conferees believe that any such regulations should provide that, if the stock of an institution with a pre-1988 reserve is acquired by another depository institution, the pre-1988 reserve will not be restored to income by reason of the acquisition. Similarly, if an institution with a pre-1988 reserve is merged or liquidated tax-free into a bank, the pre-1988 reserve should not be restored to income by reason of the merger or liquidation. Rather, the bank will inherit the pre-1988 reserve and the post-1951 earnings and profits of the former thrift institution and section 593(e) will apply to the bank as if it were a thrift institution. That is, the pre-1988 reserve will be restored into income in the case of any distribution in redemption of the stock of the bank or in partial or complete liquidation of the bank following the merger or liquidation. In the case of any other distribution, the pre-1988 reserve will not be restored to income unless the distribution is in excess of the sum of the post-1951 earnings and profits inherited from the thrift institution and the post-1913 earnings and profits of the acquiring bank.[78] The conferees expect that Treasury regulations will address the case where the shareholders of an institution with a pre-1988 reserve are ''cashed out'' in a taxable merger of the institution and a bank. Such regulations may provide that the pre-1988 reserve may be restored to income if such redemption represents a concealed distribution from the former thrift institution. For example, cash received by former thrift shareholders pursuant to a taxable reverse merger may represent a concealed distribution if, immediately preceding the merger, the acquiring bank had no available resources to distribute and its existing debt structure, indenture restriction, financial condition, or regulatory capital requirements precluded it from borrowing money for purposes of making the cash payment to the former thrift shareholders. No inference is intended by the conferees as to the application of section 593(e) to these and similar transactions under present law.

Further, if a taxpayer no longer qualifies as a bank (as defined by sec. 581), the balances of the taxpayer's pre-1988 reserve and supplemental reserves are restored to income ratably over a six-year period, beginning in the taxable year the taxpayer no longer qualifies as a bank.

Residential loan requirement.—Under a special rule, if the taxpayer meets the 'residential loan requirement'' for a taxable year, the recapture of the applicable excess reserve otherwise required to be taken into account as a section 481(a) adjustment for such year will be suspended. A taxpayer meets the residential loan requirement if, for the taxable year, the principal amount of residential loans made by the taxpayer during the year is not less than its base amount. The residential loan requirement is applicable only for taxable years that begin after December 31, 1995, and before January 1, 1998, and must be applied separately with respect to each such year. Thus, all taxpayers are required to recapture their applicable excess reserves within six, seven, or eight years after the effective date of the provision.

The ''base amount'' of a taxpayer means the average of the principal amounts of the residential loans made by the taxpayer during the six most recent taxable years beginning before January 1, 1996. At the election of the taxpayer, the base amount may be computed by disregarding the taxable years within that six-year period in which the principal amounts of loans made during such years were highest and lowest. This election must be made for the first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, and applies to the succeeding taxable year unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate.

For purposes of the residential loan requirement, a loan will be deemed to be ''made'' by a financial institution to the extent the institution is, in fact, the principal source of the loan financing. Thus, any loan only can be ''made'' once. The conferees expect that loans ''made'' by a financial institution may include, but are not limited to, loans (1) originated directly by the institution through its place of business or its employees, (2) closed in the name of the institution, (3) originated by a broker that acts as an agent for the institution, and (4) originated by another person (other than a financial institution) and that are acquired by the institution pursuant to a pre-existing, enforceable agreement to acquire such loans. In addition, Treasury regulations also may provide that loans ''made'' by a financial institution may include loans originated by another person (other than a financial institution) acquired by the institution soon after origination if such acquisition is pursuant to a customary practice of acquiring such loans from such person. A loan acquired by a financial institution from another financial institution generally will be considered to be made by the transferor rather than the transferee of the loan; however, such loan may be completely disregarded if a principal purpose of the transfer was to allow the transferor to meet the residential loan requirement. A loan may be considered to be made by a financial institution even if such institution has an arrangement to transfer such loan to the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

For purposes of the residential loan requirement, a ''residential loan'' is a loan described in section 7701(a)(19)(C)(v) (generally, loans secured by residential real and church property and certain mobile homes),[79] but only to the extent the loan is made to the owner of the property to acquire, construct, or improve the property. Thus, mortgage refinancings and home equity loans are not considered to be residential loans, except to the extent the proceeds of the loan are used to acquire, construct, or improve qualified residential real property. The conferees understand that pursuant to the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, financial institutions are required to disclose the purpose for which loans are made. The conferees further understand that for purposes of this disclosure, institutions are required to classify loans as home purchase loans, home improvement loans, refinancings, and multifamily dwelling loans (whether for purchase, improvement or refinancing of such property). The conferees expect that taxpayers (and the Secretary of the Treasury in promulgating guidance) may take such reporting into account, and make such adjustments as are appropriate,[80] in determining: (1) whether or not a loan qualifies as a ''residential loan'' and (2) whether the institution ''made'' the loan. A taxpayer must use consistent standards for determining whether loans qualify as residential loans made by the institution both for purposes of determining its base amount and for purposes of

[77] The conferees expect that in the case of the merger, acquisition, spin-off, or other reorganization involving only thrift institutions, section 593(e) as modified by the conference agreement, will continue to be applied in a manner similar to the way section 593(e) is applied under present law.

However, guidance will be needed in the case of transactions where one of the parties to the transaction is not a thrift institution. Guidance may be needed because the issue of whether section 593(e) applies in the case where a thrift institution is merged into a bank generally does not arise under present law because such merger results in a charter change and, under proposed Treasury regulations, requires full bad debt reserve recapture.

[78] If the acquiring bank is a former thrift institution itself and the pre-1988 reserves of neither institution are restored to income pursuant to the merger, the conferees expect that the pre-1988 reserves and the post-1951 earnings and profits of the two institutions will be combined for purposes of the continued application of section 593(e) with respect to the combined institution.

[79] For this purpose, as under present law, if a multifamily structure securing a loan is used in part for nonresidential purposes, the entire loan will be deemed a residential real property loan if the planned residential use exceeds 80 percent of the property's planned use (determined as of the time the loan is made). In addition, loans made to finance the acquisition or development of land will be deemed to be loans secured by an interest in residential real property if, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, there is a reasonable assurance that the property will become residential real property within a period of three years from the date of acquisition of the land.

[80] For example, adjustments will be required with respect to the reporting of multifamily dwellings in order to distinguish home purchase, home improvement, and refinancing loans.

determining whether it met the residential loan requirement for a taxable year.

The residential loan requirement is determined on a controlled group basis. Thus, for example, if a controlled group consists of two thrift institutions with applicable excess reserves that are wholly-owned by a bank, the residential loan requirement will be met (or not met) with respect to both thrift institutions by comparing the principal amount of the residential loans made by all three members of the group during the taxable year to the group's base amount. The group's base amount will be the average principal amount of residential loans made by all three members of the group during the base period. The election to disregard the high and low taxable years during the 6-year base period also would be applied on a controlled group basis (i.e., generally by treating the members of the group as one taxpayer so that all members of the group must join in the election, and the same corresponding years of each member would be so disregarded).

Treasury regulations may provide rules for the application of the residential loan requirement in the case of mergers, acquisitions, and other reorganizations of thrift and other institutions. For example, the balance of a taxpayer's applicable excess reserve will be treated as a tax attribute to which section 381 applies. Thus, if an institution with an applicable excess reserve is acquired in a tax-free reorganization, the conferees expect that balance of such reserve will not be immediately restored to income but will continue to be subject to the residential loan requirement in the hands of the acquirer. The conferees further expect that if a financial institution joins or merges into (or leaves) a group of financial institutions, the base amount of the acquiring (or remaining) group will be appropriately adjusted to reflect the base amount of the acquired (or departing) institution for purposes of determining whether the group meets the residential loan requirement for the year of the acquisition (or departure) and subsequent years. Similarly, if a controlled group of institutions had made an election to disregard its high and low years in computing its base amount, it is anticipated that such election shall be binding on any institution that subsequently joins the group and the election shall be applied to the new member by disregarding the high and low years of the new member even if such years do not correspond to the years applicable to the other members of the group.

Treatment of conversions to credit unions

The conference agreement provides that if a thrift institution to which the repeal of section 593 applies becomes a credit union, the credit union will be treated as an institution that is not a bank and any section 481(a) adjustment required to be included in gross income will be treated as derived from an unrelated trade or business. Thus, if a thrift institution becomes a credit union in its first taxable year beginning after December 31, 1995, the entire balance of the institution's bad debt reserve will be included in income, and subject to tax, over a six-year period beginning with such taxable year. No inference is intended as to the Federal income tax treatment of any other aspect of the conversion of a financial institution to a credit union.

Effective date.—The repeal of section 593 is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995. The repeal of section 595 is effective for property acquired in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1995. The amendment to section 860E does not apply to any residual interest in a REMIC held by the taxpayer on October 31, 1995, and at all times thereafter.

The amendment to section 593(e)(1)(B) does not apply to any distributions with respect to preferred stock (including redemptions of such stock) if: (1) such stock was issued and outstanding as of November 1, 1995, and at all times thereafter before the distribution and (2) such distribution is made within the later of (a) one year after the date of enactment of this Act or (b) if the stock is redeemable by the issuer or a related party, 30 days after the date such stock first may be redeemed. For this purpose, the first date a preferred stock may be redeemed is the day upon which the issuer or a related party has the right to call the stock, regardless of the amount of call premium.

23. REMOVE BUSINESS EXCLUSION FOR ENERGY SUBSIDIES PROVIDED BY PUBLIC UTILITIES

(Sec. 401 of H.R. 3286.)

Present law

Internal Revenue Code section 136, as added by the Energy Policy Act of 1992, provides an exclusion from the gross income of a customer of a public utility for the value of any subsidy provided by the utility for the purchase or installation of an energy conservation measure with respect to a dwelling unit (as defined by sec. 280A(f)(1)). In addition, for subsidies received after 1994, section 136 provides a partial exclusion from gross income for the value of any subsidy provided by a utility for the purchase or installation of an energy conservation measure with respect to property that is not a dwelling unit. The amount of the exclusion is 40 percent of the value for subsidies received in 1995, 50 percent of the value for subsidies received in 1996, and 65 percent of the value for subsidies received after 1996.

For this purpose, an energy conservation measure is any installation or modification primarily designed to reduce consumption of electricity or natural gas or to improve the management of energy demand with respect to property. With respect to property other than a dwelling unit, an energy conservation measure includes ''specially defined energy property'' (generally, property described in sec. 48(l)(5) of the Code as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990).

The exclusion does not apply to payments made to or from a qualified cogeneration facility or a qualifying small power production facility pursuant to section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act of 1978.

Section 136 denies a deduction or credit to a taxpayer (or in appropriate cases requires a reduction in the adjusted basis of property of a taxpayer) for any expenditure to the extent that a subsidy related to the expenditure was excluded from the gross income of the taxpayer.

House bill

No provision in H.R. 3448. Section 401 of H.R. 3286, the ''Adoption Promotion and Stability Act of 1996,'' as passed by the House, repeals the partial exclusion for any subsidy provided by a utility for the purchase or installation of an energy conservation measure with respect to property that is not a dwelling unit.

Effective date.—The provision is effective for subsidies received after December 31, 1996, unless received pursuant to a binding written contract in effect on September 13, 1995, and all times thereafter.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the provision in H.R. 3286.

VII. TAX TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS PROVISIONS

House bill

The House bill contains technical, clerical, and conforming amendments to the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990, the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993, and other recently enacted tax legislation.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill, except as follows:

(a) Expiration date of special ethanol blender refund (sec. 1703(k) of the Senate amendment)

The Senate amendment corrects a 1990 drafting error by conforming the expiration date for an excise tax expedited refund provision for gasohol blenders to that for gasoline tax provisions generally.

(b) Estate tax freezes (sec. 1702(f) of the House bill and the Senate amendment)

The House bill includes a provision (also contained in prior technical corrections bills) to provide a special definition of ''applicable family member'' for purposes of determining control under section 2701 of the Code (relating to special valuation rules in case of transfers of certain interests in corporations or partnerships). The Senate amendment does not include this provision.

(c) Certain property not treated as section 179 property (sec. 1704(u) of the House bill and sec. 1702(h)(19) of the Senate amendment)

The House bill includes a provision denying the section 179 expensing allowance to (1) property described in section 50(b) (generally property used outside the United States, property used in connection with furnishing lodging, property used by tax exempt organizations, governments and foreign persons); (2) air conditioning or heating units; and (3) horses. The provision is effective for property placed in service after May 14, 1996.

The Senate amendment does not deny the expensing allowance for horses. The provision in the Senate amendment is effective as if included in the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment with respect to identical provisions, with one modification. That modification deletes the technical correction related to a Tax Reform Act of 1986 transition rule allowing tax-exempt bonds to be issued for certain facilities. The 1986 provision to which that technical correction relates expired after December 31, 1990, and the correction has been rendered moot by passage of time.

With regard to the differing provisions, the conference agreement includes the following:

(a) Expiration date of special ethanol blender refund

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

(b) Estate tax freezes

The conference agreement follows the House bill.

(c) Certain property not treated as section 179 property

The conference agreement follows the Senate amendment.

(d) Intermediate sanctions penalty provisions

The conference agreement corrects a drafting error in the Taxpayer Bill of Rights II (H.R. 2337) with respect to the additional filing and disclosure rules imposed on certain tax-exempt organizations as part of the intermediate sanctions provisions. The conference agreement increases (from $10 to $20 per each day of failure) present-law penalties that apply when a tax-exempt organization fails to allow public inspection of its annual returns (sec. 6652(c)(1)(C)) or fails to allow public inspection of its application for recognition of tax-exempt status (sec.

6652(c)(1)(D)). In addition, the conference agreement increases the section 6652(c)(1)(C) maximum penalty with respect to any one return from $5,000 to $10,000.

TRADE PROVISIONS

GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

Subtitle J of Title I of the conference agreement, the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Renewal Act of 1996, is a substitute amendment to Title V of the Trade Act of 1974, which expired on July 31, 1995. As indicated below, the conference agreement reinstates several provisions of expired law without change.

1. BASIC AUTHORITY

Expired law

Section 501 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, (Generalized System of Preferences) grants authority to the President to provide duty-free treatment to imports of eligible articles from designated Beneficiary Developing Countries (BDCs), subject to certain conditions and limitations.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference Agreement

The conference agreement reinstates the expired section 501 of Title V, without change.

2. DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Expired law

Section 502 of the Trade Act of 1974 sets forth both the procedures for designating countries as Beneficiary Developing Countries (BDCs) and the conditions for such designation. This section establishes conditions for designation which are mandatory and others which are discretionary. With regard to mandatory conditions, the President is prohibited from designating any country for GSP benefits which is a developed country listed in section 502(b). Further, the term ''country'' is defined as any foreign country, and overseas dependent territory or possession of a foreign country, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Under Section 502(b), the President is prohibited from designating specific developed countries as BDCs: Australia, Austria, Canada, European Union member states, Finland, Iceland, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement amends the definition of country to include ''any territory'' and deletes the reference in section 502(b) to Austria, Finland, and Sweden which are now European Union member states.

3. MANDATORY CONDITIONS

Expired law

Under section 502(c) the President is prohibited from designating as a BDC a country which:

(a) is a Communist country, unless (i) its products receive non-discriminatory most-favored-nation (MFN) treatment, (ii) it is a GATT Contracting Party and a member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and (iii) it is not dominated or controlled by international communism;

(b) is an OPEC member, or a party to another arrangement, and participates in an action the effect of which is to withhold supplies of vital commodity resources from international trade or raise their price to an unreasonable level and to cause disruption of the world economy, subject to trade agreement exemptions consistent with objectives under the Trade Act of 1974;

(c) affords ''reverse preferences'' having or likely to have a significant adverse effect on U.S. commerce, unless the President receives satisfactory assurances of elimination before January 1, 1976;

(d) has nationalized or expropriated U.S. property, or taken similar actions, unless compensation is made, being negotiated, or in arbitration;

(e) fails to recognize as binding or enforce arbitral awards in favor of U.S. citizens;

(f) aids or abets, by granting sanctuary from prosecution to, any individual or group which has committed an act of international terrorism; and

(g) has not taken or is not taking steps to afford internationally recognized worker rights to its workers.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reinstates expired law, except, with respect to mandatory conditions: in (a)(ii), replaces ''is a GATT contracting party'' with ''is a Member of the World Trade Organization.''; in (b), deletes the reference to OPEC member and the exemption authority; in (c), deletes the satisfactory assurances exemption for reverse preferences.

4. DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA

Expired law

Under section 502(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 the President must take into account a list of factors in determining whether to designate a country a BDC, including whether or not other major developed countries are granting GSP to the country, whether or not the country has taken or is taking steps to afford its workers internationally recognized workers rights, and the extent to which the country is providing adequate and effective intellectual property protection.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement makes no substantive change to the expired provision, but makes a technical change to the intellectual property rights criterion.

5. GRADUATION OF BDC'S

Expired law

Countries are graduated from GSP eligibility if the per capita GNP of any BDC for any year exceeds a dollar limit ($11,800 in 1994), indexed annually under a formula starting with the base amount of $500 in 1984. When the income level reaches this amount, such country is subject to a 25, rather than 50, percent competitive need import share limit on all eligible articles for up to the following two years. After that time, the country is no longer treated as a BDC.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement substitutes ''high income'' country as designated by the World Bank (approximately $8,600 per capita GNP in 1994), for the per capita GNP indexing formula in current law. Thus, if the President determines that a BDC has become a ''high income'' country as designated by the World Bank, the President is required to remove the country from eligibility under the program. Although the Conference agreement would reinstate a transition period of up to two years for country graduation from the GSP program, it would eliminate application of the 25 percent competitive need limit during this phase-out period.

6. DESIGNATION OF ELIGIBLE ARTICLES

a. Exempted products

Expired law

Under Section 503 of the Trade Act of 1974 the President may not designate any article as GSP eligible within the following categories of import-sensitive articles:

(a) textile and apparel articles which are subject to textile agreements;

(b) watches, except watches entered after June 30, 1989 that the President determines will not cause material injury to watch or watch band, strap, or bracelet manufacturing and assembly operations in the United States or U.S. insular possessions;

(c) import-sensitive electronic articles;

(d) import-sensitive steel articles;

(e) footwear, handbags, luggage, flat goods, work gloves, and leather wearing apparel which were not GSP eligible articles on April 1, 1984;

(f) import-sensitive semi-manufactured and manufactured glass products; and

(g) any other articles the President determines to be import-sensitive in the context of GSP.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reinstates provisions of expired law, except, with respect to changes in the following statutory exemptions: in (a), it replaces the expired provision with exemption of textile and apparel articles which were not GSP eligible on January 1, 1994 and; in (e) it applies exemption to footwear and related articles which were not GSP eligible on January 1, 1995.

b. Three-year rule

Expired law

Each year the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) conducts an interagency review process in which products can be added to or removed from the GSP program, or in which a country's compliance with eligibility requirements can be reviewed. The reviews are normally based on petitions filed by interested parties, but may also be self-initiated by USTR.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement prohibits consideration of an article for designation of eligibility for three years following formal consideration and denial of that article.

c. Least developing countries (LDDCs)

Expired law

No provision.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement provides specific authority for the President to designate any article that is the growth, product, or manufacture of a least-developed developing country (LDDC) as an eligible article with respect

to imports from LDDCs, if, after receiving advice from the International Trade Commission, the President determines such an article is not import-sensitive in the context of imports from LDDCs. This authority does not apply to statutorily exempt articles—textiles and apparel, footwear and related articles, and watches. The President shall notify Congress at least 60 days in advance of LDDC designations. LDDC designations will be based on overall economic and discretionary criteria for country designation under the GSP program.

7. LIMITS ON PREFERENTIAL AUTHORITY

Expired law

Under Section 504 of the Trade Act of 1974, the President may withdraw, suspend, or limit GSP duty-free treatment with respect to any article or any country, except that no duty may be established other than the rate of duty which would otherwise apply (the MFN rate), after considering both the policy objectives and the discretionary BDC designation favors of the GSP program. The President shall withdraw or suspend the BDC designation of any country if he determines that, as a result of changed circumstances, the country would be barred from designation.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reinstates expired law.

8. COMPETITIVE NEED LIMITS

Expired law

Whenever the President determines that exports by any BDC to the United States of a GSP eligible article during any year—

(a) exceed a dollar limit ($122 million in 1995) based on $25 million adjusted annually relative to changes in the U.S. GNP since 1974, or

(b) equal or exceed a 50 percent share of the total value of U.S. imports of the article,

then, no later than July 1 of the next year, such country is not treated as a BDC with respect to such article.

Not later than January 4, 1987, and periodically thereafter, the President must conduct a general review of eligible articles and, if he determines that a BDC has demonstrated a sufficient degree of competitiveness relative to other BDCs on any eligible article, then a lower competitive need dollar limit ($41.9 million in 1993, indexed annually from 1984 base) and 25 percent total import share limit apply.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reduces the basic competitive need limit to $75 million for any year beginning January 1, 1996, and substitutes a standard annual increase of $5 million for the indexing formula in expired law. The 50 percent import share limit is reinstated. The conference agreement deletes the general review requirements and the lower competitive need limits.

9. AUTHORITY TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE NEED LIMITS

Expired law

The President may waive the dollar and import share competitive need limits on any eligible article of any BDC if he (1) receives ITC advice on the likely effect of the waiver on any U.S. industry; (2) determines, based on the overall GSP and discretionary country designation considerations and the ITC advice, that the waiver is in the U.S. national economic interest; and (3) publishes the determination in the Federal Register.

The import share competitive need limit may be disregarded if total U.S. imports of the eligible article during the preceding year do not exceed a de minimis amount of $5 million adjusted annually ($13.4 million in 1994) according to changes in u.S. GNP since 1979. The import share competitive need limit does not apply to any eligible article if a like or directly competitive article was not produced in the United States as of January 3, 1985.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reinstates the expired waiver authority. Under the conference Agreement the import share competitive need limit does not apply if the article is not produced in the United States as of January 1, 1995. The conference Agreement also reinstates the de minimis import provision, but substitutes $13 million in 1996 and a standard annual increase of $500,000 beginning January 1, 1996 for the indexing formula in expired law.

10. OTHER PROVISIONS REGARDING WAIVER AUTHORITY, REPORTS, AND AGRICULTURE EXPORTS

a. Waiver trade limits

Expired law

Under section 504(c)(3)(D) of the Trade Act of 1974, the President may not exercise the competitive need waiver authority in any year on imports of eligible articles exceeding:

(a) 30 percent of total GSP duty-free imports during the preceding year, or

(b) 15 percent of total GSP duty-free imports during the preceding year from BDCs which had (i) a per capita GNP of $5,000 or more, or (ii) exported to the United States more than 10 percent of total GSP duty-free imports during that year.

The President may waive competitive need limits in certain cases where there has been a historical preferential trade relationship between the United States and that country.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reinstates provisions in expired law regarding waiver trade limits, and historical preferences.

b. Report on workers rights

Expired law

The President must submit an annual report to the Congress on the status of internationally recognized workers' rights within each BDC.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reinstates expired law.

c. Agriculture exports

Expired law

Section 506 requires that appropriate U.S. agencies assist BDCs in developing and implementing measures designed to ensure that the production of agricultural sectors of their economies is not directed to export markets, to the detriment of the foodstuff production for their citizens.

House bill

No provision.

Senate bill

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reinstates expired law.

11. PROVISIONS REGARDING TERMINATION AND EFFECTIVE DATES

Expired law

No duty-free treatment shall remain in effect after July 31, 1995.

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

No provision.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement reauthorizes the program for one year, ten months, to terminate on May 31, 1997. The effective date of the extension of the GSP program is October 1, 1996. However, the conference agreement also provides that, notwithstanding section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 or any other provision of law, the entry (1) of any article to which duty-free treatment under Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 would have applied if the entry had been made on July 31, 1995, and (2) that was made after July 31, 1995, and before January 1, 1996, shall be liquidated or reliquidated as free of duty and the Secretary of the Treasury shall refund any duty paid, upon proper request filed with the appropriate customs officer, within 180 days after the date of enactment. Further, the conference agreement provides that notwithstanding section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 or any other provision of law, the entry (1) of any article to which duty-free treatment under Title V of 1974 (as amended by this Title) would have applied if the entry had been made on or after October 1, 1996, and (2) that was made after December 31, 1995, and before October 1, 1996, shall be liquidated or reliquidated as free of duty and the Secretary of the Treasury shall refund any duty paid, upon proper request filed with the appropriate customs officer, within 180 days after the date of enactment. Although importers would be entitled to request such refunds after the date of enactment of the bill, reimbursement of duties would occur only after the beginning of fiscal year 1997 (October 1, 1996).

REMOVAL OF BARRIERS TO INTERETHNIC ADOPTION

Present law

State law governs adoption and foster care placement. Many States permit race matching of foster and adoptive parents with children either in regulation, statute, policy, or practice. The Howard M. Metzenbaum Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994 (''Metzenbaum Act'', Public Law 103–382) permits States to consider race and ethnicity in selecting a foster care or adoptive home, but States cannot delay or deny the placement of the child solely on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

Noncompliance with the Metzenbaum Act is deemed a violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

House bill

Section 553 of the Metzenbaum Act is repealed. In addition, Section 471 of the Social Security Act is amended to prohibit a State or other entity that receives Federal assistance from denying to any person the opportunity to become an adoptive or a foster parent on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the person or of the child involved. Similarly, so State or other entity

receiving Federal funds can delay or deny the placement of a child for adoption or foster care in making a placement, on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the adoptive or foster parent or the child involved.

Section 474 of the Social Security Act is amended to require the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to reduce the amount of Federal foster care and adoption funds provided to the State through Title IV–E if the State program is found in violation of this provision as a result of a review conducted under Section 1123 of the Social Security Act. States found to be in violation would have their quarterly funds reduced by 2 percent for the first violation, by 5 percent for the second violation, and by 10 percent for the third or subsequent violation.

Private entities found to be in violation of this provision for a quarter are required to return to the Secretary all federal funds received from the State during the quarter. Any individual who is harmed by a violation of this provision may seek redress in any United States district court. An action under this provision may not be brought more than two years after the alleged violation occurred.

Noncompliance with this provision constitutes a violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 is not affected by changes made in this title.

Effective date.—This provision applies upon enactment (except States must meet the State plan requirement provision of bill section 201(a) not later than January 1, 1997).

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment is the same as the House bill, except that the Senate amendment clarifies that the Secretary of HHS shall apply penalties in conformance with section 1123 procedures to include an opportunity for the State to adopt and implement a corrective action plan. The provision clarifies that penalties will be assessed on a fiscal year basis. The amendment limits to 25 percent the maximum amount the Secretary of HHS can reduce a State's grant in a quarter.

Conference agreement

The conference agreement follows the House bill and the Senate amendment with modifications. If the State has failed to correct the violation within six months (or less, at the Secretary's discretion), the Secretary shall impose penalties. The amount of the graduated penalties or set at 2, 3, and 5 percent respectively. The total amount of penalties which can be applied in a fiscal year cannot exceed 5 percent of a State's total IV–E grant.

The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 is not affected by changes made in this title.

Effective date.—The provisions related to civil rights enforcement are effective upon enactment. The provisions related to State plan requirements are effective on January 1, 1997.

TITLE II

Senate Amendments 2 through 6: Senate amendments 2 through 6 made technical corrections in the section numbering in title II of the House bill. The House receded from its disagreement to Senate amendments 2 through 6 with technical changes to the House bill and other changes described in this statement.

1. EMPLOYEE COMMUTING FLEXIBILITY ACT

House bill

The House bill would clarify the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 to allow employers and employees to agree on the use of employer-provided vehicles to commute to and from work at the beginning and end of the workday, without the commuting time being treated as hours of work.

Senate amendment

Same.

Conference agreement

Follow House and Senate language.

2. MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

House bill

The House bill would increase the minimum wage in two increments. Beginning July 1, 1996 the minimum wage would increase from $4.25 to $4.75, and beginning July 1, 1997 the minimum wage would increase from $4.75 to $5.15.

Senate amendment

Same.

Conference agreement

Beginning October 1, 1996, the minimum wage would increase from $4.25 to $4.75, and beginning September 1, 1997, the minimum wage would increase from $4.75 to $5.15. The conference agreement also makes a technical change to avoid retroactively increasing the minimum wage in Puerto Rico by also striking section 6(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

3. COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS EXEMPTION

House bill

The House bill specifies that computer professionals who are paid at least $27.63 per hour (maintaining current law) are exempt from overtime wages.

Senate amendment

Same.

Conference agreement

Follow House and Senate language.

4. TIP CREDIT

House bill

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) currently contains a tip credit system whereby employers of tipped employees may count tips received by the worker for up to 50 percent of the employer's minimum wage obligation. In the event that an employee's cash wages and tips do not meet the statutory minimum wage, the employer must contribute the amount of wages necessary for the employee to make at least the minimum wage.

The House bill sets the cash wage paid by employers to tipped employees at $2.13 and allows tips to be counted toward the remainder of the minimum wage obligation. The employer would be required to make up any difference the minimum wage and the combination of $2.13 plus tips to ensure that each employee makes at least the minimum wage.

Senate amendment

Same.

Conference agreement

Follows House and Senate language except makes technical changes including the technical change of deleting the word ''cash'' before ''wage'' where it appears in paragraph (2).

5. OPPORTUNITY WAGE

House bill

The House bill allows employers to pay new hires under 20 years of age not less than $4.25 per hour for the first 90 days (calendar days—not days of work) after the employee is hired. The House bill contains protections for current workers by prohibiting employers from taking any action to displace any employee in order to hire a worker at the opportunity wage.

Senate amendment

Same.

Conference agreement

Follow House and Senate language.

ESTIMATED BUDGET EFFECTS OF THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE REVENUE PROVISIONS OF H.R. 3448, THE "SMALL BUSINESS JOB PROTECTION ACT OF 1996,"

Fiscal Years 1996-2006

[Millions of Dollars]

Provision	Effective	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1996-00	1997-01	1996-06
I. IDENTICAL PROVISIONS															
Small Business and Other Tax Provisions															
A. Small Business Provisions															
1. FICA tip credit:															
a. Provided for off-premises employees	1/1/97	---	-6	-14	-15	-16	-17	-18	-18	-19	-20	-21	-51	-68	-165
b. Clarification of effective date	[1]	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
2. Clarify exemption from FICA taxes for certain fishermen and provide that exemption applies even if crew member receives de minimis amounts of cash payments	[2]	-1	-10	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-11	-11	-13
B. Provisions Relating to S Corporations															
1. Increase number of eligible shareholders	tyba 12/31/96	---	-5	-14	-16	-20	-22	-25	-28	-31	-35	-39	-55	-77	-235
2. Permit certain trusts to hold stock in S corporations	tyba 12/31/96	---	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-3	-3	-3	-8	-10	-23
3. Extend holding period for certain trusts	tyba 12/31/96	---	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]
4. Financial institutions permitted to hold safe-harbor debt	tyba 12/31/96	---	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-1
5. Authority to validate certain invalid elections	tyba 12/31/82	---	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-1
6. Allow interim closing of the books	tyba 12/31/96	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
7. Expand post-termination period and amend subchapter S audit procedures	tyba 12/31/96	---	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-1
8. S corporations permitted to hold S or C subsidiaries	tyba 12/31/96	---	-5	-9	-11	-13	-15	-17	-20	-23	-26	-29	-38	-53	-168
9. Treatment of distributions during loss years	tyba 12/31/96	---	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-1
10. Treatment of S corporations as shareholders in C corporations	tyba 12/31/96	---	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]
11. Elimination of certain earnings and profits of S corporations	tyba 12/31/96	---	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]
12. Treatment of certain losses carried over under at-risk rules	tyba 12/31/96	---	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]
13. Adjustments to basis of inherited S stock	dda DOE	---	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]	[8]
14. Treatment of certain real estate held by an S corporation	tyba 12/31/96	---	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-6	-8	-18
15. Transition rule for elections after termination	tyba 12/31/96	---	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]
16. Interaction of subchapter S changes except for ESOP and financial institution proposals	---	---	-3	-26	-32	-37	-38	-39	-40	-40	-40	-40	-98	-136	-335

Provision	Effective	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1996-00	1997-01	1996-06
Pension Simplification Provisions															
A. Simplified Distribution Rules															
1. Repeal of $5,000 exclusion of employees' death benefits	dda DOE	---	28	49	52	54	55	55	56	57	57	58	183	238	521
2. Simplified method for taxing annuity distributions under certain employer plans	asda 90 da DOE	---	22	28	28	29	29	29	30	30	31	31	107	136	287
3. Minimum required distributions	yba 12/31/96	---	-1	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-13	-17	-37
B. Increased Access to Retirement Savings Plans -															
1. Tax-exempt organizations eligible under section 401(k)	yba 12/31/96	---	-8	-22	-24	-25	-26	-28	-29	-30	-31	-31	-79	-105	-254
C. Nondiscrimination Provisions															
1. Repeal of family aggregation rules [9]	yba 12/31/96	---	[10]	[10]	*Considered in Other Provisions*								[10]	[10]	[10]
2. Modification of additional participation requirements	yba 12/31/96	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
3. Definition of compensation for section 415 purposes	yba 12/31/97	---	---	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-3	-3	-4	-6	-18
4. Safe-harbor nondiscrimination rules for qualified cash or deferred arrangements and matching contributions [11]	yba 12/31/98	---	---	---	-45	-166	-171	-175	-180	-186	-191	-196	-211	-382	-1,309
D. Miscellaneous Provisions															
1. Plans covering self-employed individuals	yba 12/31/96	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
2. Elimination of special vesting rule for multiemployer plans	yba 12/31/96	---	[3]	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-3	-4	-9
3. Distributions under rural cooperative plans	DOE	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
4. Treatment of governmental plans under section 415	yba 12/31/94	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
5. Uniform retirement age [9]	yba 12/31/96	---	[10]	[10]	*Considered in Other Provisions*								[10]	[10]	[10]
6. Contributions on behalf of disabled employees	yba 12/31/96	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
7. Treatment of deferred compensation plans of State and local governments and tax-exempt organizations	tyba 12/31/96	---	[3]	-1	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-3	-5	-15
8. Correction of GATT interest and mortality rate provisions in the Retirement Protection Act	[12]	---	-4	-4	-4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-12	-12	-12
9. Application of elective deferral limit to section 403(b) plans	tyba 12/31/95	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
10. Increase section 4975 excise tax on prohibited transactions from 5% to 10%	ptoa DOE	---	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	14	18	38
11. Treatment of leased employees	yba 12/31/96	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
12. Uniform penalty provision to apply to certain pension reporting requirements	1/1/97	*No Revenue Effect*													
13. Clarify that SECA does not apply to certain parsonage allowance income	ybbo/a 12/31/94	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
14. Date of adoption of plan amendments	DOE	*No Revenue Effect*													
15. Require section 457 plan assets to be held in trust; transition rule for existing plans	DOE	---	-7	-21	-24	-25	-25	-26	-27	-28	-29	-30	-77	-102	-242

Provision	Effective	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1996-00	1997-01	1996-06
16. Multiple salary reduction agreements permitted under section 403(b)	tyba 12/31/95	Negligible Revenue Effect													
SUBTOTAL: Identical Provisions		---	-15	-54	-113	-242	-254	-268	-280	-295	-310	-323	-425	-679	-2,161
II. PROVISIONS AGREED UPON															
Small Business and Other Tax Provisions															
A. Small Business Provisions															
1. Increase in expensing limitation for small businesses to $18,000 for 1997, $18,500 for 1998, $19,000 for 1999, $20,000 for 2000, $24,000 for 2001, $24,000 for 2002, $25,000 for 2003 and thereafter [13]	tyba 12/31/96	---	-67	-180	-261	-331	-763	-938	-786	-646	-439	-265	-839	-1,602	-4,676
2. Treatment of storage of product samples	tyba 12/31/95	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-2
3. Provide that certain charitable risk pools would qualify as charitable organizations under section 501(c)(3)	tyba DOE	---	[3]	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-3	-3	-3	-4	-16
4. Treatment of certain dues paid to agricultural or horticultural organizations	tyba 12/31/86	Negligible Revenue Effect													
5. Require purchasers of fish in excess of $600 in cash to provide information reports	12/31/97	---	---	5	9	10	10	11	11	11	12	12	24	34	91
6. Change related-party and maximum size requirements for first-time farmer industrial development bonds	bia DOE	---	-1	-6	-12	-17	-21	-26	-30	-34	-37	-40	-36	-57	-224
7. Clarify that newspaper carriers and distributors are independent contractors	spa 12/31/95	Negligible Revenue Effect													
8. Provide involuntary conversion treatment for Presidentially declared disaster areas	DDA 12/31/94	-6	-14	-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	-50	-54	-110
9. Provide 15-year depreciation for gas station/convenience stores	ppiso/a/b DOE	-7	-24	-37	-45	-50	-53	-53	-55	-61	-42	-25	-163	-209	-452
10. Leasehold improvements provision	lida 6/12/96	-12	-22	-19	-16	-13	-11	-7	-4	-2	1	4	-82	-81	-101
11. Worker classification:															
a. Clarification of Section 530 safe harbor	spa 12/31/96	---	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-6
b. Provide that if the taxpayer reclassifies independent contractors as employees, this change does not alter the application of the safe harbor for prior periods	pa 12/31/96	---	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[4]	[4]	[4]
c. Clarify "substantially similar position"	pa 12/31/96	Negligible Revenue Effect													
12. Allow certain teaching hospitals to provide tax-free housing to medical faculty	tyba 12/31/95	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[4]	[4]	[15]
B. Extension of Certain Expiring Provisions															
1. Extend the work opportunity tax credit, with modifications through 9/30/97 [16]	10/1/96	---	-116	-141	-82	-32	-12	-2	---	---	---	---	-371	-383	-385
2. Employer-provided educational assistance; extend for graduate education through 6/30/96; undergraduate education sunset 5/31/97	1/1/95	-68	-934	-103	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-1,105	-1,037	-1,105
3. Permanent extension of FUTA exemption for alien agricultural workers [17]	1/1/95	-5	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-17	-15	-35

Provision	Effective	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1996-00	1997-01	1996-06
4. R&E credit, with modifications through 5/31/97	7/1/96	-101	-331	-872	-208	-148	-77	-17	---	---	---	---	-1,660	-1,636	-1,754
5. Orphan drug tax credit through 5/31/97 with section 39 benefits	7/1/96	-6	-16	-1	-1	-1	-1	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-25	-20	-26
6. Contribution of appreciated stock to private foundations through 5/31/97	7/1/96	-14	-104	-10	-4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-132	-118	-132
7. Extend section 29 binding contract date to 12/31/96 and placed-in-service date to 6/30/98 for biomass and coal	---	---	-8	-34	-60	-69	-65	-57	-55	-56	-58	-59	-171	-236	-522
8. Suspend excise tax on motorboat diesel through 12/31/97	DOE + 7 days	-4	-34	-9	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-47	-43	-47
C. Provisions Relating to S Corporations															
1. Treat financial institutions that do not use the reserve method as eligible corporations	tyba 12/31/96	---	-1	-3	-5	-6	-8	-10	-12	-14	-15	-16	-15	-23	-90
2. Permit tax-exempts to be subchapter S shareholders with UBTI inclusion and ESOP benefit restriction	tyba 12/31/97	---	---	-3	-9	-11	-13	-15	-17	-19	-21	-23	-23	-36	-131
Pension Simplification Provisions															
A. Simplified Distribution Rules															
1. Repeal of 5-year income averaging for lump-sum distributions	tyba 12/31/99	---	74	77	108	78	70	44	17	15	---	---	337	407	483
B. Increased Access to Retirement Savings Plans -															
1. Establish SIMPLE pension plan	yba 12/31/96	---	-50	-76	-79	-81	-84	-87	-91	-94	-97	-101	-286	-370	-840
2. Increase availability of spousal IRAs	yba 12/31/96	---	-57	-168	-184	-195	-206	-219	-233	-248	-264	-281	-604	-810	-2,055
C. Nondiscrimination Provisions															
1. Simplified definition of highly compensated employees; employers can elect whether or not to apply a top 20% test [9]	yba 12/31/96	---	[15]	[15]	*Considered in Other Provisions*								[4]	[4]	[4]
D. Miscellaneous Provisions															
1. Treatment of Indian tribal governments under section 403(b)	cpb 1/1/95	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
2. Allow waiver of 30-day waiting period for qualified plan distributions	pyba 12/31/96	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
3. Repeal of combined plan limit	lyba 12/31/99	---	---	---	---	-72	-195	-201	-207	-213	-219	-226	-72	-267	-1,333
4. 3-year waiver of excess distribution tax	1/1/97	---	42	44	47	32	---	---	---	---	---	---	165	165	165
5. Direct IRS to develop model forms for qualified domestic relations orders ("QDRO") and spousal consent provisions	DOE	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
6. Permit volunteer firefighters to make deferrals under section 457 (limited to $3,000 per year)	do/a 1/1/97	---	-2	-5	-7	-9	-11	-13	-16	-18	-20	-23	-23	-34	-124
7. Alternative nondiscrimination rules for certain plans that provide for early participation	1/1/99	---	---	---	-6	-17	-18	-19	-19	-20	-20	-20	-23	-41	-139
8. Clarify definition of plan assets	1/1/75	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													
9. Church pension plan simplification:															
a. Allow pension plan coverage for self-employed clergy	yba 12/31/96	*Negligible Revenue Effect*													

Provision	Effective	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1996-00	1997-01	1996-06
b. Allow church pension plans to use the new definition of highly compensated employee in the bill - Treasury safe harbor.....	yba 12/31/96	Negligible Revenue Effect													
c. Allow payroll deduction of pension contributions for clergy on foreign missions.....	tyba 12/31/96	Negligible Revenue Effect													
10. Grant IRS the discretion to waive pension liquidity shortfall excise tax.....	[12]	---	-4	-3	-2	-1	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	-11	-11	-11
Foreign Simplification															
1. Repeal of excess passive assets provision (section 956A).....	---	---	-11	-22	-29	-36	-41	-45	-51	-57	-64	-71	-98	-139	-427
Other Provisions															
1. Exempt from diesel dyeing requirement any States exempt from Clean Air Act dyeing requirement.....	fcqa DOE	---	[3]	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-3	-6
2. Application of common paymaster rules to certain agency accounts at State universities [17].....	rpa 12/31/96	---	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]	[14]
3. Exempt imported recycled halons from ozone-depleting chemicals tax.....	cia 12/31/96	---	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-4	-4	-9
4. Suspend excise tax on ozone depleting chemicals used in metered dose inhalers.....	DOE + 7 days	---	-12	-8	-8	-2	---	---	---	---	---	---	-30	-30	-30
5. Alaska Power Authority:															
a. Authorize tax-exempt bonds for purchase of Alaska Power Authority.....	bia DOE	---	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-4	-5	-10
b. Proceeds from asset sale; foregone receipts from electricity sale [18].....	DOE	---	76	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	55	48	13
6. Allow for tax-free conversion of common trust funds to mutual funds.....	ta 12/31/95	-4	-9	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-9	-9	-9	-9	-37	-41	-89
7. Clarify that State prepaid tuition plans are tax-exempt entities; clarify OID rules.....	tyba 12/31/95	Negligible Revenue Effect													
Revenue Offsets															
1. Possessions tax credit: Wage credit companies - 6 years of present law, thereafter subject to income cap, followed by 4-year phaseout with modified base period, then repealed; income companies - 2 years of present law followed by 8 years subject to income cap, then repealed; QPSII - repealed later of taxable years beginning after 12/31/95 or earnings after 6/30/96 with estimated payment adjustment; permit base adjustment for asset acquisition.....	tyba 12/31/95	111	697	586	589	490	507	736	1,105	1,378	1,678	2,686	2,473	2,869	10,563
2. Repeal 50% interest income exclusion for financial institution loans to ESOPs [19].....	lma DOE	10	64	105	144	182	220	256	292	327	360	327	505	715	2,287

Provision	Effective	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1996-00	1997-01	1996-06
3. Apply look-through rule for purposes of characterizing certain subpart F insurance income as UBTI, with amendment	---	1	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	8	17	21	54
4. Corporate accounting - reform of income forecast method	ppisa 9/13/95	32	69	29	13	14	16	19	22	28	31	35	157	141	308
5. Modify exclusion of damages received on account of personal injury or sickness	ara DOE	3	50	55	59	61	64	68	71	74	77	80	228	289	662
6. Repeal advance refunds of diesel fuel tax for diesel cars and light trucks	vpa DOE	1	15	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	73	91	187
7. Phase out and extend luxury automobile excise tax through 12/31/02	so/a DOE + 7 days	-4	-56	-105	-132	124	183	140	32	---	---	---	-173	14	182
8. Modify two county tax-exempt bond rule for local furnishers of electricity or gas; prohibit new local furnishers (with current service areas grandfathered)	[20]	---	---	3	-3	-6	-4	-3	[3]	7	13	15	-5	-9	23
9. Reinstate Airport and Airway Trust Fund excise taxes through 12/31/96, with (1) exemption for fixed-wing emergency medical aircraft, and mining, oil, and gas industry helicopters for flights not using FAA services; (2) clarification of collection point; and (3) clarification of tax treatment of travel on corporate aircraft in affiliated groups	tp7data DOE	28	1,528	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	1,556	1,528	1,555
10. Modify basis adjustment rules under section 1033	ica DOE	---	1	5	9	14	20	29	37	46	56	64	29	49	281
11. Treatment of certain insurance on retired lives	tyba 12/31/95	---	2	1	-2	5	2	[3]	10	-5	2	-3	6	8	12
12. Modified guaranteed contracts	tyba 12/31/95	---	-3	3	2	2	-1	-1	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	5	4	1
13. Tax-free treatment of contributions in aid of construction for water utilities; change depreciation for water utilities	[21]	---	-21	-9	-3	11	24	35	45	55	64	73	-22	2	274
14. Permit scholarship funding corporation to convert to taxable corporation	1/1/97	---	3	6	8	10	10	9	7	6	5	4	26	36	68
15. Apply math error rules for dependency exemptions and filing status when correct taxpayer identification numbers are not provided	rd 30 da DOE	---	133	272	262	249	242	234	226	217	209	201	916	1,158	2,245
16. Provide for flow through treatment for Financial Asset Securitization Investment Trusts (FASITs)	9/1/97	---	---	92	48	8	-3	-9	-14	-19	-25	-32	148	146	47
Technical Corrections															
1. Luxury excise tax, and other technical corrections [13]	---	14	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	14	[3]	13

Provision	Effective	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1996-00	1997-01	1996-06
Additional Provisions															
1. Extend GSP through 5/31/97 [17] [22]	---	---	-817	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-817	-817	-817
2. $5,000 nonrefundable adoption credit and employer-provided assistance exclusion;$6,000 special needs; non-special needs sunset after 2001; AGI phaseout beginning at $75,000	tyba 12/31/96	---	-19	-204	-332	-355	-366	-348	-222	-139	-129	-119	-910	-1,276	-2,234
3. 6 month delay of electronic funds transfer	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
4. Remove business exclusion for energy subsidies provided by public utilities	tyba 12/31/96	---	63	100	104	107	109	111	113	115	116	117	374	483	1,055
5. Repeal bad debt reserve deduction for thrift institutions, with residential loan test for 1996 and 1997	tyba 12/31/95	47	111	216	280	277	272	260	247	111	36	29	931	1,156	1,886
6. Modify treatment of foreign trusts	[23]	52	143	171	180	188	197	206	214	223	245	260	734	879	2,079
NET TOTALS		**67**	**316**	**-316**	**250**	**160**	**-269**	**-190**	**347**	**663**	**1,135**	**2,271**	**471**	**136**	**4,413**

Joint Committee on Taxation

NOTE: Details may not add to totals due to rounding.
Enactment date is assumed to be August 1, 1996.

Legend for "Effective" column: ara = amounts received after
asda = annuity starting date after
bia = bonds issued after
cia = chemicals imported after
cpb = contracts purchased before
dda = decedents dying after
DDA = disasters declared after
do/a = deferrals on or after
DOE = date of enactment
fcqa = first calendar quarter after
ica = involuntary conversions after
lida = leasehold improvements disposed of after
lma = loans made after
lyba = limitation years beginning after
pa = periods after
ppisa = property placed in service after
ppiso/a/b = property placed in service on, after, or before
ptoa = prohibited transactions occurring after
pyba = plan years beginning after
rd 30 da = returns due 30 days after
rpa = remuneration paid after
so/a = sales on or after
spa = services performed after
ta = transfers after
tyba = taxable years beginning after
tp7data DOE = tickets purchased 7 days after date of enactment for travel 7 days after date of enactment
yba = years beginning after
ybbo/a = years beginning before, on, or after
vpa = vehicles purchased after
90 da DOE = 90 days after date of enactment

[1] Effective as if included in the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1993.
[2] The provision applies to remuneration paid after 12/31/94, and also is effective with respect to remuneration paid after 12/31/84, and before 1/1/95, unless the payor treated such remuneration (when paid) as being subject to FICA taxes.
[3] Loss of less than $500,000.
[4] Loss of less than $5 million.
[5] Loss of less than $15 million.
[6] Loss of less than $20 million.
[7] Loss of less than $30 million.

[Footnotes for Table #96-0 218 appear on the following page]

Footnotes continued:

[8] Gain of less than $1 million.
[9] Revenue effect after 1/1/99 included in the revenue estimate for the safe harbor provision due to interactions between this provision and Item II. Pension C.4.
[10] Negligible revenue effect.
[11] This provision considers interaction effects of SIMPLE retirement plan provisions (Items I. Pension C.1, I. Pension D.5, and II. Pension C.1).
[12] Effective as if included in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade of 1994.
[13] The technical correction relating to expensing is included in the increase in expensing limitation provision (Item II. Small Business A.1).
[14] Loss of less than $1 million.
[15] Loss of less than $10 million.
[16] Credit rate at 35% on first $6,000 of income; eligible workers expanded to include enterprise zone/community youth, welfare cash recipients, veteran foodstamp recipients, and 18 - 24 year olds living in a household receiving food stamps for a period of at least 6 months on the date of hire without pre-certification; 400 hour work requirement; 21 day certification requirement.
[17] Estimates provided by the Congressional Budget Office.
[18] Estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office. Negative numbers indicate that Federal outlays will increase; positive numbers indicate that Federal outlays will decrease.
[19] The repeal would not apply to loans made pursuant to a binding contract entered into before 6/10/96.
[20] Effective generally date of enactment; placed in service before 1/1/97 for limitation on new local furnishers.
[21] Effective for amounts received after 6/12/96 and property placed in service after 6/12/96 with the exception of certain property subject to a binding contract before 6/10/96.
[22] Amounts are payable after 9/30/96.
[23] Various effective dates depending on provisions.

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of the House bill (except for title II) and the Senate amendment numbered 1, and modifications committed to conference:

BILL ARCHER,
PHIL CRANE,
BILL THOMAS,
SAM GIBBONS,
CHARLES B. RANGEL,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for consideration of secs. 1704(h)(1)(B) and 1704(l) of the House bill and secs. 1421(d), 1442(b), 1442(c), 1451, 1457, 1460(b), 1460(c), 1461, 1465, and 1704(h)(1)(B) of the Senate amendment numbered 1, and modifications committed to conference:

WILLIAM F. GOODLING,
CASS BALLENGER,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for consideration of title II of the House bill and the Senate amendments numbered 2–6, and modifications committed to conference:

WILLIAM F. GOODLING,
H.W. FAWELL,
FRANK RIGGS,
WILLIAM L. CLAY,
MAJOR R. OWENS,
MAURICE HINCHEY,
Managers on the Part of the House.

From the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM,
EDWARD M. KENNEDY,
JIM JEFFORDS,

From the Committee on Finance:

BILL ROTH,
JOHN H. CHAFEE,
CHUCK GRASSLEY,
ORRIN G. HATCH,
AL SIMPSON,
LARRY PRESSLER,
DANIEL P. MOYNIHAN,
MAX BAUCUS,
DAVID PRYOR,
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

N O T I C E

Incomplete record of House proceedings. Except for concluding business which follows, today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3845, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. BONILLA submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 3845) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 104–740)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3845) ''making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes,'' having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendments numbered 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 9, 12, and 13, and agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 1:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 1, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken by said amendment, insert the following: *That funds expended for the Office of the Mayor are not to exceed $2,109,000, of which $632,000 is from intra-District funds: Provided further, That $327,000 of the funds for the Office of the Mayor shall be transferred to the Department of Administrative Services as reimbursement for occupancy costs, including costs for telephone, electricity and other services: Provided further,*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 2:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 2, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Delete the matter stricken by said amendment, and on page 3, after line 4 of the House engrossed bill, H.R. 3845, insert the following:

FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION FOR REPAIR OF DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

For a Federal contribution to the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority for contracting with a private entity (or entities) to carry out a program to inspect, flush, and repair the drinking water distribution system of the District of Columbia, $1,000,000.

, and

on page 4, line 13 of the House engrossed bill, H.R. 3845, strike all after ''funds)'' down through and including ''Columbia'' on page 5, line 11.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment number 8:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 8, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Retain the matter proposed in said amendment, and

on page 31, line 5 of the House engrossed bill, H.R. 3845, strike '', prior to October 1, 1996,''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment number 10:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 10, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Delete the matter proposed and restore the matter stricken amended as follows:

In lieu of the first sum named in the matter restored insert: *$74,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment number 11:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 11, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Delete the matter proposed and restore the matter stricken amended as follows:

In lieu of subsection (a) in the matter restored insert:

(a) The heads of all personnel of the offices, together with all other District of Columbia accounting, budget, and financial management personnel (including personnel of independent agencies but not including personnel of the legislative and judicial branches of the District government), shall be appointed by, shall serve at the pleasure of, and shall act under the direction and control of the Chief Financial Officer:

The Office of the Treasurer.

The Controller of the District of Columbia.

The Office of the Budget.

The Office of Financial Information Services.

The Department of Finance and Revenue.

The District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority established pursuant to Public Law 104–8, approved April 17, 1995, may remove such individuals from office for cause, after consultation with the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 14:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 14, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert the following:

SEC. 149. ENERGY AND WATER SAVINGS AT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FACILITIES.

(a) REDUCTION IN FACILITY ENERGY COSTS AND WATER CONSUMPTION.—

IN GENERAL.—The Director of the District of Columbia Office of Energy shall, subject to the contract approval provisions of Public Law 104–8—

(A) develop a comprehensive plan to identify and accomplish energy conservation measures to achieve maximum cost-effective energy and water savings;

(B) enter into innovative financing and contractual mechanisms including, but not limited to utility demand-side management programs and energy savings performance contracts and water conservation performance contracts: Provided, That the terms of such contracts do not exceed twenty-five years; and

(C) permit and encourage each department or agency and other instrumentality of the District of Columbia to participate in programs conducted by any gas, electric or water utility of the management of electricity or gas demand or for energy or water conservation.

REDUCTION IN MINIMUM NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

SEC. 150. The first section of the Act entitled ''an Act to incorporate the American University'', approved February 24, 1893 (27 Stat. 476), is amended by striking ''forty'' and inserting ''twenty-five''.

WAIVER OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW FOR CERTAIN COUNCIL ACTS

SEC. 151. Notwithstanding section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, each of the following District of Columbia acts shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this act:

(1) The District of Columbia Real Property Tax Lien Assignment or Sale and Transfer Amendment Act of 1996 (D.C. Act 11–353).

(2) The Telecommunications Competition Act of 1996 (D.C. Act 11–300).

(3) The Mortgage Lenders and Brokers Act of 1996 (D.C. Act 11–309).

And the Senate agree to the same.

JAMES T. WALSH,
HENRY BONILLA,
JACK KINGSTON,

R.P. FRELINGHUYSEN,
MARK W. NEUMANN,
MIKE PARKER,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
JULIAN C. DIXON,
JOSÉ E. SERRANO,
MARCY KAPTUR,
DAVID R. OBEY,
Managers on the Part of the House.

JAMES M. JEFFORDS,
BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL,
MARK O. HATFIELD,
HERB KOHL
(Except amendments No. 6 and No. 7)
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
(Except amendments No. 6 and No. 7),
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3845) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effect of the actions agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report.

The conference agreement on the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 1997, incorporates some of the provisions of both the House and Senate versions of the bill. The language and allocations set forth in House Report 104–689 and Senate Report 104–328 should be complied with unless specifically addressed in the accompanying bill and statement of the managers to the contrary.

A summary chart appears after the explanation for amendment 5 showing the Federal appropriations by account and the allocation of District funds by agency or office under each appropriation title showing the fiscal year 1996 appropriation, the control board distribution for fiscal year 1996, and the fiscal year 1997 request, House and Senate recommendations and conference allowance.

DEFICIT SPENDING AND LONG-TERM DEFICIT BORROWING

The conferees are concerned with the insidious aspects of long-term borrowing to fund deficit spending. The conferees note that the actual deficit for fiscal year 1995 was only $25,000,000 when the accounting adjustments of $29,000,000 are factored out.

For fiscal year 1996, the deficit was estimated at $20,000,000 at the time the President signed the appropriations Act; however, in testimony provided by the Chief Financial Officer to the House Committee on Appropriations on May 15, 1996, the deficit was projected at $116,000,000, a 580 percent increase. While the deficit was relatively small in fiscal year 1995, it is projected to increase significantly in fiscal year 1996.

The District is proposing to borrow $500,000,000 long term to fund the accumulated deficit caused by overspending and future projected deficits. The cost of this proposal is $435,000,000 in interest costs that will have to be paid from current operating revenues in addition to the $500,000,000 in principal that will have to be repaid. Said another way, instead of the $435,000,000 being used to benefit District taxpayers in the form of teachers and counselors for education programs, police activities and fire services as well as programs to meet various social needs, those hundreds of millions of dollars will be used for interest payments to bondholders thus depriving the citizens of the District the use of scarce revenues for basic city services. The insidious nature of deficit borrowing is that it allows higher spending that satisfies immediate needs while at the same time entrapping current and future taxpayers into making interest payments on funds borrowed to pay for goods and services that were provided in the past. This $435,000,000 is in addition to the $150,000,000 in interest payments being made on the $336,000,000 in deficit borrowings made in fiscal year 1991.

Long-term borrowings for capital projects, on the other hand, are entirely appropriate because the projects on which those funds are spent last for the period during which those borrowings are repaid so that the taxpayers at the time the payments are made are able to benefit from those projects. This is not the case with long-term borrowings for deficit spending. Every effort should be made by the Mayor, the Council and the control board to avoid deficit spending and thus alleviate the need to obligate future taxpayers to pay for the overspending of those who preceded them.

The accumulated deficit at the end of fiscal year 1995 totaled $378,000,000 which was computed by subtracting total assets from total liabilities in the General Fund and resulted in liabilities exceeding assets available to satisfy those liabilities. However, an analysis of the liabilities reveals that approximately $312,000,000 will either not require a use of cash or are long term in nature. For example, $142,000,000 is deferred revenue, which is a record of cash already received that will be recorded as revenue earned in fiscal year 1996. The cash is already in the General Fund's cash account. Another $170,000,000 is recorded as accrued liabilities which are estimates of payments that may be made sometime in the distant future, such as payments resulting from claims and judgments, disputes from grant claims, and possible Medicaid payments subject to audits of reimbursement claims. Thus, only about $66,000,000 of the remaining excess liabilities over assets of the accumulated deficit may need to be paid in fiscal year 1996. Given this analysis it appears that a long-term borrowing of $500,000,000 should be carefully analyzed and avoided by pursuing other options. A very high priority should be given to living within the current revenues.

An analysis of the District's cash account to determine the pattern of overspending since fiscal year 1991 when $336,000,000 was borrowed to fund the accumulated deficit reveals that the District over spent an average of $71,000,000 per year. It should be noted that this amount reflects increases and decreases in both the accounts receivable and the accounts payable so that a deferral of the use of cash would not artificially inflate the balance in the cash account. This amount is approximately the amount of the projected fiscal year 1997 deficit of $74,000,000 recommended in this conference agreement. The Mayor and the Control Board Chairman recently stated that there were several ways of reducing the projected fiscal year 1997 deficit. These recommendations as well as those made by the many financial advisers who have testified and published reports on the various ways the city can reduce the costs of operating the Nation's Capital should be pursued vigorously.

Testimony at recent and past hearings as well as reports from financial advisors to the city and meetings with District and control board officials have documented the concerns and inherent problems in borrowing long-term to finance operating deficits. The officials cited several ways to reduce the projected deficit for fiscal year 1997; the advisors have testified that future requests by the District to fund an operating deficit should not be approved; and testimony indicates that a change in one item, Medicaid, among several other items, would eliminate the city's deficit and result in a surplus. Efforts should be pursued immediately on these items that will save District taxpayers and the Federal Government hundreds of millions of dollars instead of spending scarce local revenues on interest costs to bondholders.

Long-term borrowing for deficit spending does not resolve the problems caused by overspending—rather it increases the accumulated deficit and postpones the tough decisions that have to be made. Deficit financing carries a very high cost that has serious negative consequences to the financial health and quality of life of the community.

QUALITY OF DISTRICT'S DRINKING WATER

The conferees are deeply concerned about recent violations of Federal drinking water quality standards and the continuing problems that beset the drinking water supply and distribution system for the District of Columbia. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently completed a preliminary investigation of the water quality problems attributed to the District's water distribution system and concluded that there is an urgent and immediate need for the District to implement steps to assure the integrity of drinking water quality in the District. Among the most important of these recommended actions is that the District hire a private contractor or contractors to flush the drinking water distribution system completely, and to inspect and repair water valves.

The conferees agree that there is a strong Federal interest in assuring that those who visit, live, and work in the Nation's Capital have safe water to drink. Accordingly, the conference agreement includes $1,000,000 in Federal funds for this purpose under amendment number 2. These funds are provided to the Financial Control Board to contract with a private entity or entities to conduct the inspection, flushing and repair work recommended by the EPA. The conferees direct the control board to consult with the Department of Public Works, the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority and the EPA in implementing this activity. Further, the conferees encourage the control board to move expeditiously to contract for the work in anticipation of the funds provided in the accompanying bill becoming available on October 1, 1996.

YCARE 2000 PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP

The conferees fully support the YCARE 2000 program sponsored by the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington. The program provides work-readiness, conflict resolution training, tutoring, socialization and other skills to at-risk District youth who are in the age range of 5 to 18 years old. The conferees believe that YCARE 2000 is an example of an efficient and well-managed private-public partnership which can provide social services to improve the lives of the city's young people. The conferees note that the Council of the District of Columbia has formally recognized the achievements of the YCARE 2000 initiative in a July 11, 1995 resolution.

In order to provide and facilitate private-public partnerships such as YCARE 2000 and in order to reach at-risk youth most efficiently, the conferees request that the Mayor, the City Council, and the Board of Education work with organizations like the YMCA to locate such programs on or near school property. In addition, the conferees request that the Mayor consult with representatives of private, not-for-profit community organizations with demonstrated experience and expertise in providing services

to children and youth in the District and, to the extent financial constraints permit, make funds available to such groups for such services on the condition that the groups provide equal matching amounts.

FEDERAL FUNDS

FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION FOR REPAIR OF DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

The conference agreement, under amendment number 2, includes a Federal contribution of $1,000,000 to the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority for contracting with private entities to inspect, flush, and repair the drinking water distribution system in the District. A discussion of the quality of the district's drinking water appears earlier in this statement.

DISTRICT FUNDS

GOVERNMENTAL DIRECTION AND SUPPORT

Amendment No. 1: Limits the fiscal year 1997 budget for the Office of the Mayor to $2,109,000 of which $632,000 is from intra-District funds instead of $1,753,000 of which $632,000 is from intra-District funds as proposed by the House and $2,209,000 of which $632,000 is from intra-District funds as proposed by the Senate and provides that $327,000 of the $2,109,000 shall be transferred to the Department of Administrative Services as reimbursement for occupancy costs, including costs for telephone, electricity and other services.

Amendment No. 2: Deletes a proviso proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate and further deletes a proviso before and a proviso that followed the proviso stricken by the Senate concerning the District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency and inserts a new heading and paragraph appropriating $1,000,000 in Federal funds to the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority for contracting with private entities to carry out a program to inspect, flush, and repair the drinking water distribution system in the District.

The conference action deletes language as requested in the consensus budget that eliminates the requirement for the District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency to repay the District's general fund $10,591,000 appropriated for fiscal years 1980 through 1992 to finance the Agency's operations. According to District officials, retaining the language requires the Agency to carry the debt on its books and creates a negative financial picture thereby making it difficult and more costly for the Agency to access capital markets. The debt was determined by the District's independent auditors to be ''uncollectible'' and is fully reserved for in the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) (see page 34, fiscal year 1995 CAFR). An earlier communication from District officials requested that the language be retained. See amendment number 12 for language ''forgiving'' the Agency from the repayment requirement.

The conference action also appropriates $1,000,000 for a Federal contribution to the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority for contracting with private entities to inspect, flush, and repair the city's water distribution system which has fallen into disrepair. A discussion of the quality of the District's drinking water appears earlier in this statement.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Amendment No. 3: Deletes language proposed by the Senate that would have modified the appropriations title to indicate that this appropriation included a transfer of funds. The transfer of funds in amendment number 4 has not been agreed to by the conferees.

Amendment No. 4: Deletes a proviso proposed by the Senate that would have transferred $651,000 from the Department of Public Works to the District of Columbia Court System for maintenance and repair of elevators/escalators, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, fire alarms and security systems, materials and services for building maintenance and repair, and trash removal.

The conferees are extremely concerned and disappointed that the Department of Public Works has failed to provide maintenance and repair services to the District of Columbia Courts in a professional manner, permitting necessary maintenance and repair contracts to lapse and causing greater expenses and disruptions as a result. While the conference agreement retains this responsibility in the Department of Public Works, the conferees expect this will not happen again.

The conference action reflects a reallocation of building occupancy costs totaling $2,347,000 from the Superior Court's budget to the Court System's budget because the payments are made from that particular budget. This reallocation was requested by District officials.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Amendment No. 5: Provides an increase of $46,923,000 for construction projects as proposed by the House instead of $75,923,000 as proposed by the Senate. The reduction of $29,000,000 below the amount proposed by the Senate reflects the deletion of duplicate capital outlay authority initially provided in the fiscal year 1996 appropriations act (Public Law 104–234) for Facility Condition Assessment ($1,000,000) and Financial Control System or FMS ($28,000,000). The amount approved in fiscal year 1996 under ''Capital Outlay'' is available for two years for the initial obligation after which the authority remains available until exhausted. The House and Senate versions of the bill for fiscal year 1997 include an increase of $3,123,000 for the FMS which when added to the $28,000,000 in the fiscal year 1996 act will provide a total of $31,123,000 for FMS work.

SUMMARY TABLE OF CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS BY AGENCY

A summary table showing the Federal appropriations by account and the allocation of District funds by agency or office under each appropriation title for fiscal year 1996, the control board distribution for fiscal year 1996, and the fiscal year 1997 request, House and Senate recommendations and conference allowance follows:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS, 1997 (H.R. 3845)

Appropriation	FY 1996 Approved	FY 1996 Distribution by Control Board	FY 1997 Request	House Recommendation	Senate Recommendation	Conference Agreement
FEDERAL FUNDS						
Federal payment to the District of Columbia	660,000,000	660,000,000	660,000,000	660,000,000	660,000,000	660,000,000
Federal contribution to retirement funds	52,070,000	52,070,000	104,140,000	52,070,000	52,070,000	52,070,000
Reimbursement of inauguration expenses	0	0	5,702,000	5,702,000	5,702,000	5,702,000
Federal contribution for repair of drinking water system	0	0	0	0	0	1,000,000
Total, Federal funds to the District of Columbia	712,070,000	712,070,000	769,842,000	717,772,000	717,772,000	718,772,000
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS						
Governmental Direction and Support:						
Council of the District of Columbia	8,380,000	7,295,000	8,878,000	8,878,000	8,878,000	8,878,000
Office of the District of Columbia Auditor	961,000	952,000	982,000	982,000	982,000	982,000
Advisory Neighborhood Commissions	572,000	572,000	572,000	572,000	572,000	572,000
Office of the Mayor	1,753,000	1,548,000	2,209,000	1,753,000	2,209,000	2,109,000
Office of the Secretary	2,497,000	2,424,000	2,208,000	2,208,000	2,208,000	2,208,000
Office of Inspector General	728,000	3,493,000	7,200,000	7,200,000	7,200,000	7,200,000
Office of Communications	300,000	313,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
Office of Intergovernmental Relations	1,735,000	1,259,000	1,239,000	1,239,000	1,239,000	1,239,000
Office of City Administrator/Deputy Mayor for Operations	4,776,000	3,975,000	4,637,000	4,637,000	4,637,000	4,637,000
Office of Personnel	11,220,000	10,596,000	10,568,000	10,568,000	10,568,000	10,568,000
Department of Administrative Services	38,288,000	45,331,000	29,819,000	29,819,000	29,819,000	29,819,000
Contract Appeals Board	511,000	528,000	563,000	563,000	563,000	563,000
Office of the Deputy Mayor for Finance	320,000	1,919,000	1,459,000	1,459,000	1,459,000	1,459,000
Office of the Budget	4,010,000	5,392,000	4,251,000	4,251,000	4,251,000	4,251,000
Office of Financial Management	43,009,000	26,310,000	23,764,000	23,764,000	23,764,000	23,764,000
Department of Finance and Revenue	21,183,000	20,828,000	22,357,000	22,357,000	22,357,000	22,357,000
Tax Revision Commission	0	200,000	0	0	0	0
Board of Elections and Ethics	3,015,000	2,807,000	2,777,000	2,777,000	2,777,000	2,777,000
Office of Campaign Finance	773,000	747,000	804,000	804,000	804,000	804,000
Public Employee Relations Board	470,000	467,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000
Office of Employee Appeals	1,413,000	1,126,000	1,113,000	1,113,000	1,113,000	1,113,000
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments	400,000	400,000	396,000	396,000	396,000	396,000
Office of Grants Management and Development	2,816,000	2,857,000	12,922,000	12,922,000	12,922,000	12,922,000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS, 1997 (H.R. 3845) - continued

Agency/Activity	FY 1996 Approved	FY 1996 Distribution by Control Board	FY 1997 Request	House Recommendation	Senate Recommendation	Conference Agreement
Governmental Direction and Support - continued						
Certificate of Participation	0	0	7,926,000	0	0	0
Human Resources Development	0	0	12,257,000	0	0	0
Real Estate	0	0	(4,488,000)	0	0	0
Management Information Systems	0	0	(6,317,000)	0	0	0
Energy Cost Reduction	0	0	(2,271,000)	0	0	0
Purchasing and Procurement	0	0	(12,960,000)	0	0	0
Unallocated	0	0	0	456,000	0	100,000
Total, Governmental Direction and Support	149,130,000	141,339,000	133,540,000	139,393,000	139,393,000	139,393,000
Lees Intra-District funds	(24,728,000)	(23,981,000)	(23,730,000)	(23,730,000)	(23,730,000)	(23,730,000)
Revised, Governmental Direction and Support	124,402,000	117,358,000	109,810,000	115,663,000	115,663,000	115,663,000
Economic Development and Regulation:						
Business Services and Economic Development	0	0	51,967,000	51,967,000	51,967,000	51,967,000
Assistant City Administrator for Economic Development	3,943,000	3,832,000	0	0	0	0
Office of Banking and Financial Institutions	296,000	231,000	0	0	0	0
Office of Tourism and Promotion	1,000,000	995,000	0	0	0	0
Office of Planning	1,955,000	1,910,000	0	0	0	0
Office of Zoning	541,000	552,000	870,000	870,000	870,000	870,000
Department of Housing and Community Development	15,988,000	15,114,000	0	0	0	0
Department of Public and Assisted Housing	8,420,000	8,344,000	8,330,000	8,330,000	8,330,000	8,330,000
Department of Employment Services	63,925,000	53,613,000	66,012,000	66,012,000	66,012,000	66,012,000
Board of Appeals and Review	131,000	129,000	157,000	157,000	157,000	157,000
Board of Real Property Assessments and Appeals	338,000	321,000	351,000	351,000	351,000	351,000
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs	36,349,000	35,511,000	14,102,000	14,102,000	14,102,000	14,102,000
Public Service Commission	5,600,000	5,547,000	4,570,000	4,570,000	4,570,000	4,570,000
Office of the People's Counsel	2,497,000	2,081,000	2,437,000	2,437,000	2,437,000	2,437,000
Total, Economic Development and Regulation	140,983,000	128,180,000	148,796,000	148,796,000	148,796,000	148,796,000
Less Intra-District funds	(16,330,000)	(16,330,000)	(13,092,000)	(13,092,000)	(13,092,000)	(13,092,000)
Revised, Economic Development and Regulation	124,653,000	111,850,000	135,704,000	135,704,000	135,704,000	135,704,000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS, 1997 (H.R. 3845) - continued

Agency/Activity	FY 1996 Approved	FY 1996 Distribution by Control Board	FY 1997 Request	House Recommendation	Senate Recommendation	Conference Agreement
Public Safety and Justice:						
Metropolitan Police Department	245,717,000	237,624,000	264,637,000	264,637,000	264,637,000	264,637,000
Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department	87,292,000	89,960,000	106,720,000	106,720,000	106,720,000	106,720,000
Police and Fire Retirement System	220,000,000	220,000,000	226,700,000	226,700,000	226,700,000	226,700,000
Judges' Retirement System	4,700,000	4,700,000	5,500,000	5,500,000	5,500,000	5,500,000
Court of Appeals	5,974,000	5,937,000	6,167,000	6,167,000	6,167,000	6,167,000
Superior Court	80,919,000	76,852,000	81,101,000	81,101,000	81,101,000	81,101,000
Court System	34,677,000	33,331,000	33,944,000	33,944,000	33,944,000	33,944,000
Office of the Corporation Counsel	16,954,000	16,777,000	17,334,000	17,334,000	17,334,000	17,334,000
Settlements and Judgments	14,800,000	14,800,000	14,800,000	14,800,000	14,800,000	14,800,000
Public Defender Service	7,702,000	7,702,000	7,797,000	7,797,000	7,797,000	7,797,000
Pretrial Services Agency	4,407,000	5,429,000	6,063,000	6,063,000	6,063,000	6,063,000
Department of Corrections	232,302,000	248,541,000	272,302,000	272,302,000	272,302,000	272,302,000
Board of Parole	5,322,000	5,305,000	8,277,000	8,277,000	8,277,000	8,277,000
National Guard	678,000	667,000	902,000	902,000	902,000	902,000
Office of Emergency Preparedness	2,194,000	2,142,000	2,887,000	2,887,000	2,887,000	2,887,000
Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure	130,000	126,000	128,000	128,000	128,000	128,000
Judicial Nomination Commission	80,000	79,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
Total, Public Safety and Justice	963,848,000	969,972,000	1,055,339,000	1,055,339,000	1,055,339,000	1,055,339,000
Less Intra-District funds	(9,115,000)	(9,115,000)	(14,058,000)	(14,058,000)	(14,058,000)	(14,058,000)
Revised, Public Safety and Justice	954,733,000	960,857,000	1,041,281,000	1,041,281,000	1,041,281,000	1,041,281,000
Public Education System:						
Board of Education (Public Schools)	580,996,000	575,175,000	578,822,000	578,822,000	578,822,000	578,822,000
School Repairs	0	2,730,000	0	0	0	0
Teachers' Retirement System	111,800,000	111,800,000	88,900,000	88,900,000	88,900,000	88,900,000
University of the District of Columbia	79,396,000	76,943,000	76,287,000	76,287,000	76,287,000	76,287,000
Public Library	20,742,000	21,657,000	22,432,000	22,432,000	22,432,000	22,432,000
Commission on the Arts and Humanities	2,267,000	2,262,000	2,220,000	2,220,000	2,220,000	2,220,000
Total, Public Education System	795,201,000	790,567,000	768,661,000	768,661,000	768,661,000	768,661,000
Less Intra-District funds	(9,846,000)	(9,846,000)	(9,846,000)	(9,846,000)	(9,846,000)	(9,846,000)
Revised, Public Education System	785,355,000	780,721,000	758,815,000	758,815,000	758,815,000	758,815,000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS, 1997 (H.R. 3845) -continued

Agency/Activity	FY 1996 Approved	FY 1996 Distribution by Control Board	FY 1997 Request	House Recommendation	Senate Recommendation	Conference Agreement
Human Support Services:						
Department of Human Services	1,705,427,000	1,566,614,000	1538200000	1,538,200,000	1,538,200,000	1,538,200,000
Department of Recreation and Parks	31,653,000	30,530,000	33,614,000	33,614,000	33,614,000	33,614,000
Office on Aging	19,009,000	18,994,000	19,169,000	19,169,000	19,169,000	19,169,000
D.C. General Hospital Payment	56,735,000	47,155,000	59,735,000	59,735,000	59,735,000	59,735,000
Unemployment Compensation Fund	10,000,000	5,937,000	7,678,000	7,678,000	7,678,000	7,678,000
Disability Compensation Fund	26,000,000	26,000,000	24,793,000	24,793,000	24,793,000	24,793,000
Department of Human Rights	1,301,000	1,388,000	974,000	974,000	974,000	974,000
Office on Latino Affairs	657,000	655,000	688,000	688,000	688,000	688,000
Commission for Women	20,000	20,000	0	0	0	0
D.C. Energy Office	4,212,000	4,167,000	5,326,000	5,326,000	5,326,000	5,326,000
Total, Human Support Services	1,855,014,000	1,701,460,000	1,690,177,000	1,690,177,000	1,690,177,000	1,690,177,000
Less Intra-District funds	(4,674,000)	(4,674,000)	(4,470,000)	(4,470,000)	(4,470,000)	(4,470,000)
Revised, Human Support Services	1,850,340,000	1,696,786,000	1,685,707,000	1,685,707,000	1,685,707,000	1,685,707,000
Public Works:						
Department of Public Works	161,227,000	151,729,000	159,042,000	159,042,000	159,042,000	159,042,000
Taxicab Commission	1,501,000	1,490,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission	96,000	96,000	96,000	96,000	96,000	96,000
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro)	130,899,000	130,899,000	131,820,000	131,820,000	131,820,000	131,820,000
School Transit Subsidy	3,845,000	3,845,000	3,845,000	3,845,000	3,845,000	3,845,000
Total, Public Works	297,568,000	288,059,000	295,803,000	295,803,000	295,803,000	295,803,000
Less Intra-District funds	(50,629,000)	(50,629,000)	(47,836,000)	(47,836,000)	(47,836,000)	(47,836,000)
Revised, Public Works	246,939,000	237,430,000	247,967,000	247,967,000	247,967,000	247,967,000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS, 1997 (H.R. 3845) - continued

Agency/Activity	FY 1996 Approved	FY 1996 Distribution by Control Board	FY 1997 Request	House Recommendation	Senate Recommendation	Conference Agreement
Financing and Other Uses:						
Washington Convention Center Transfer Payment	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000
Repayment of Loans and Interest	327,787,000	327,787,000	333,710,000	333,710,000	333,710,000	333,710,000
Repayment of General Fund Recovery Debt	38,678,000	38,678,000	38,314,000	38,314,000	38,314,000	38,314,000
Interest on Short-Term Borrowing	9,698,000	18,420,000	34,461,000	34,461,000	34,461,000	34,461,000
Pay Renegotiation or Reduction in Compensation	(46,409,000)	0	0	0	0	0
Rainy Day Fund	4,563,000	0	0	0	0	0
Incentive Buyout Program	19,000,000	0	0	0	0	0
Outplacement Services	1,500,000	0	0	0	0	0
Boards and Commissions	(500,000)	0	0	0	0	0
Government Re-Engineering Program,	(16,000,000)	0	0	0	0	0
Presidential Inauguration	0	0	5,702,000	5,702,000	5,702,000	5,702,000
Certificate of Participation	0	0	0	7,926,000	7,926,000	7,926,000
Human Resources Development	0	0	0	12,257,000	12,257,000	12,257,000
Cost Reduction Initiatives	0	0	(21,375,000)	(47,411,000)	(47,411,000)	(47,411,000)
Personal and Nonpersonal Services Adjustments	(150,907,000)	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Financing and Other Uses	192,810,000	390,285,000	396,212,000	390,359,000	390,359,000	390,359,000
D.C. Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority	3,500,000	3,150,000	3,400,000	3,400,000	3,400,000	3,400,000
Total, Financing and Other Uses	196,310,000	393,435,000	399,612,000	393,759,000	393,759,000	393,759,000
Total, general fund, operating expenses	4,398,054,000	4,413,012,000	4,491,928,000	4,491,928,000	4,491,928,000	4,491,928,000
Less Intra-District funds	(115,322,000)	(114,575,000)	(113,032,000)	(113,032,000)	(113,032,000)	(113,032,000)
Revised, general fund, operating expenses	4,282,732,000	4,298,437,000	4,378,896,000	4,378,896,000	4,378,896,000	4,378,896,000
Enterprise Funds:						
Department of Public Works (Utility Administration)	202,729,000	191,480,000	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Washington Aqueduct	39,524,000	39,524,000	25,743,000	25,743,000	25,743,000	25,743,000
Total, Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund	242,253,000	231,004,000	225,743,000	225,743,000	225,743,000	225,743,000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS, 1997 (H.R. 3845) - continued

Agency/Activity	FY 1996 Approved	FY 1996 Distribution by Control Board	FY 1997 Request	House Recommendation	Senate Recommendation	Conference Agreement
Enterprise Funds - continued						
Lottery and Charitable Games	229,950,000	229,778,000	247,900,000	247,900,000	247,900,000	247,900,000
Cable Television	2,351,000	1,766,000	2,511,000	2,511,000	2,511,000	2,511,000
Sports Commission (STARPLEX)	6,580,000	6,547,000	8,717,000	8,717,000	8,717,000	8,717,000
D.C. General Hospital	58,299,000	58,092,000	58,299,000	58,299,000	58,299,000	58,299,000
Retirement Board	13,440,000	12,417,000	16,667,000	16,667,000	16,667,000	16,667,000
Correctional Industries Fund	10,516,000	8,827,000	9,152,000	9,152,000	9,152,000	9,152,000
Washington Convention Center	32,557,000	32,557,000	47,996,000	47,996,000	47,996,000	47,996,000
Total, Enterprise Funds	595,946,000	580,988,000	616,985,000	616,985,000	616,985,000	616,985,000
Less Intra-District funds	(50,017,000)	(48,512,000)	(21,496,000)	(21,496,000)	(21,496,000)	(21,496,000)
Revised, Enterprise Funds	545,929,000	532,476,000	595,489,000	595,489,000	595,489,000	595,489,000
Total, Operating Expenses	4,994,000,000	4,994,000,000	5,108,913,000	5,108,913,000	5,108,913,000	5,108,913,000
Less Intra-District funds	(165,339,000)	(163,087,000)	(134,528,000)	(134,528,000)	(134,528,000)	(134,528,000)
Revised, Operating Expenses	4,828,661,000	4,830,913,000	4,974,385,000	4,974,385,000	4,974,385,000	4,974,385,000
Capital Outlay	102,039,000	102,039,000	75,923,000	46,923,000	75,923,000	46,923,000
Grand Total, All funds	4,930,700,000	4,932,952,000	5,050,308,000	5,021,308,000	5,050,308,000	5,021,308,000

(NOTE. - Amounts recommended in the bill exclude intra-District funds whereas amounts in this table for departments and agencies include intra-District funds for comparison purposes with fiscal year 1996 which also included intra-District funds at the department and agency level.)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 6: Restores language in section 129 proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate that prohibits the use of any funds in this Act for any abortion except to save the life of the mother or in cases of rape or incest.

Amendment No. 7: Restores language in section 130 proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate that prohibits the use of any funds in this Act (1) for any system of registration of unmarried cohabiting couples or (2) to implement or enforce the District's Domestic Partners Act.

Amendment No. 8: Inserts language in section 132 that adds the Financial Control Board to the entities in section 132 that are to receive monthly reports from the Board of Education as proposed by the Senate and deletes language in section 126 that would have prohibited the expenditure of funds by agencies for which a reorganization plan is required but has not been approved by the City Council prior to October 1, 1996. The language remaining in section 126 continues the prohibition on expenditures for such agencies until the City Council approves the required reorganization plans but removes the October 1, 1996 deadline for City Council approval.

Amendment No. 9: Adds the Financial Control Board to the entities in section 133 that are to receive monthly reports from the University of the District of Columbia as proposed by the Senate.

CEILING ON EXPENSES AND DEFICIT

Amendment No. 10: Amends language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate in section 141 (1) establishing a ceiling on fiscal year 1997 operating expenses from all funds of $5,108,913,000 of which $134,528,000 are from intra-District funds as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate; (2) limiting the operating deficit from all funds for fiscal year 1997 to $74,000,000 instead of $40,000,000 as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate, and (3) requiring the Chief Financial Officer and the Financial Control Board to take such steps as are necessary to meet these requirements including the apportioning of appropriations and funds by the Chief Financial Officer during fiscal year 1997 as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate.

The conferees urge the Mayor, the City Council, and the control board to use every means possible to reduce the costs of operating the Nation's Capital and make every effort to avoid deficit spending.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER POWERS

Amendment No. 11: Amends language in section 142 proposed by the House and the Senate to clarify that all financial personnel in the executive branch of the District government, including all independent agencies and excluding the legislative and judicial branches of the District Government, are under the exclusive control of the Chief Financial Officer instead of all financial personnel in the executive branch of the District government as proposed by the House and all financial personnel except those in the legislative and judicial branches as proposed by the Senate. The clarification is required to insure that the financial personnel of each independent agency in the District, without exception, are appointed by, serve at the pleasure of, and act under the direction and control of the Chief Financial Officer. The conferees do not expect any misinterpretation of the intent of this statute and direct the Chief Financial Officer to notify, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations as well as the respective authorizing committees of the House and the Senate of any person of any executive branch agency including any independent agency who fails to comply with the requirements of this section within five calendar days of the failure to comply.

HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

Amendment No. 12: Inserts a new section 147 as proposed by the Senate that forgives the District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency from the requirement to repay the District's general fund for $10,591,000 appropriated during fiscal years 1980–1992 for the operations of the Agency. See also amendment number 2 for a further discussion of this issue.

SCHOOL REFORM

Amendment No. 13: Inserts a new section 148 as proposed by the Senate that amends section 2561(b) of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–134) to exclude Executive Order 11246 from being waived for construction or maintenance projects coordinated through the Federal General Services Administration for the District's public school facilities. Executive Order 11246 governs civil rights protections for Federal government construction contracts.

OTHER GENERAL PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 14: Inserts new general provisions numbered 149, 150 and 151 instead of a new general provision numbered 149 as proposed by the Senate. The additional general provisions were requested by the House authorizing committee and concurred in by the Senate authorizing committee. A brief explanation of each of these general provisions follows.

Language agreed to by the conferees in section 149 proposed by the Senate authorizes the District of Columbia Energy Office, subject to control board review, to negotiate energy performance contracts for periods up to 25 years with energy service companies who will provide investment capital to reduce energy consumption in District facilities. Through this method, the energy service companies will install energy efficient lighting, heating, and cooling systems using their investment capital with their payback coming in future years from a portion of the money saved when the energy bills are lowered. It is estimated that the District government could realize annual savings of $50,000,000 in its energy costs through this program.

Language requested by the House authorizing committee and agreed to by the conferees in section 150 reduces the minimum size of the Board of Trustees of American University from 40 to 25. According to the authorizing committee, this change was requested by the University.

Language requested by the House authorizing committee and agreed to by the conferees in section 151 waives the 30-day congressional layover period for three specific pieces of legislation already approved by the District government. The Tax Lien Act of 1996 (D.C. Act 11–353) will expedite the District's ability to sell $50,000,000 in uncollected property taxes in return for $44,000,000 in cash. The authorizing committee stated that this transaction could not move ahead in a timely manner unless the review period is waived. Section 151 also waives the 30-day congressional layover for the Telecommunications Competition Act of 1996 (D.C. Act 11–300) and the Mortgage Lenders and Brokers Act of 1996 (D.C. Act 11–309) which together comprise the District's efforts to implement the Federal Telecommunications Act. The District's Telecommunications Act opens the District's market to telecommunications services providers. The Mortgage Lenders and Brokers Act regulates mortgage lenders in the District and also contains substantive amendments to the Telecommunications Act.

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 1997 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 1996 amount, the 1997 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 1997 follow:

Federal funds	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	$712,070,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	769,842,000
House bill, fiscal year 1997	717,772,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1997	717,772,000
Conference agreement, fiscal year 1997	718,772,000
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	6,702,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	(51,070,000)
House bill, fiscal year 1997	1,000,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1997	1,000,000
District of Columbia Funds	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	*[1] 4,930,7000,000*
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	*5,050,308,000*
House bill, fiscal year 1997	*5,021,308,000*
Senate bill, fiscal year 1997	*5,050,308,000*
Conference agreement, fiscal year 1997	*5,021,308,000*
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	*90,608,000*
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	*(29,000,000)*
House bill, fiscal year 1997	*0*
Senate bill, fiscal year 1997	*(29,000,000)*

[1] Excludes $165,339,000 in intra-District funds for comparability purposes with fiscal year 1997 which excludes intra-District funds.

JAMES T. WALSH,
HENRY BONILLA,
JACK KINGSTON,
R.P. FRELINGHUYSEN,
MARK W. NEUMANN,
MIKE PARKER,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
JULIAN C. DIXON,
JOSÉ E. SERRANO,
MARCY KAPTUR,
DAVID R. OBEY,
Managers on the Part of the House.

JAMES M. JEFFORDS,
BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL,
MARK O. HATFIELD,
(Except amendments No. 6 and No. 7),
HERB KOHL,
(Except amendments No. 6 and No. 7),
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1316, SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1996

Mr. BLILEY submitted the following conference report and statement on the

Senate bill (S. 1316) to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act''), and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 104–741)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1316), to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act''), and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the House and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the House amendment, insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. References; effective date; disclaimer.
Sec. 3. Findings.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

Sec. 101. Definitions.
Sec. 102. General authority.
Sec. 103. Risk assessment, management, and communication.
Sec. 104. Standard-setting.
Sec. 105. Treatment technologies for small systems.
Sec. 106. Limited alternative to filtration.
Sec. 107. Ground water disinfection.
Sec. 108. Effective date for regulations.
Sec. 109. Arsenic, sulfate, and radon.
Sec. 110. Recycling of filter backwash.
Sec. 111. Technology and treatment techniques.
Sec. 112. State primacy.
Sec. 113. Enforcement; judicial review.
Sec. 114. Public notification.
Sec. 115. Variances.
Sec. 116. Small systems variances.
Sec. 117. Exemptions.
Sec. 118. Lead plumbing and pipes.
Sec. 119. Capacity development.
Sec. 120. Authorization of appropriations for certain ground water programs.
Sec. 121. Amendments to section 1442.
Sec. 122. Technical assistance.
Sec. 123. Operator certification.
Sec. 124. Public water system supervision program.
Sec. 125. Monitoring and information gathering.
Sec. 126. Occurrence data base.
Sec. 127. Drinking Water Advisory Council.
Sec. 128. New York City watershed protection program.
Sec. 129. Federal agencies.
Sec. 130. State revolving loan funds.
Sec. 131. State ground water protection grants.
Sec. 132. Source water assessment.
Sec. 133. Source water petition program.
Sec. 134. Water conservation plan.
Sec. 135. Drinking water assistance to colonias.
Sec. 136. Estrogenic substances screening program.
Sec. 137. Drinking water studies.

TITLE II—DRINKING WATER RESEARCH

Sec. 201. Drinking water research authorization.
Sec. 202. Scientific research review.
Sec. 203. National center for ground water research.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Water return flows.
Sec. 302 Transfer of funds.
Sec. 303. Grants to Alaska to improve sanitation in rural and Native villages.
Sec. 304. Sense of the Congress.
Sec. 305. Bottled drinking water standards.
Sec. 306. Washington Aqueduct.
Sec. 307. Wastewater assistance to colonias.
Sec. 308. Prevention and control of zebra mussel infestation of Lake Champlain.

TITLE IV—ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATERSHEDS

Sec. 401. National program.

TITLE V—CLERICAL AMENDMENTS

Sec. 501. Clerical amendments.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES; EFFECTIVE DATE; DISCLAIMER.

(a) REFERENCES TO SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to that section or other provision of title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act'') (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as otherwise specified in this Act or in the amendments made by this Act, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) DISCLAIMER.—Except for the provisions of section 302 (relating to transfers of funds), nothing in this Act or in any amendments made by this Act to title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act'') or any other law shall be construed by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency or the courts as affecting, modifying, expanding, changing, or altering—

(1) the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act;

(2) the duties and responsibilities of the Administrator under that Act; or

(3) the regulation or control of point or nonpoint sources of pollution discharged into waters covered by that Act.

The Administrator shall identify in the agency's annual budget all funding and full-time equivalents administering such title XIV separately from funding and staffing for the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) safe drinking water is essential to the protection of public health;

(2) because the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) now exceed the financial and technical capacity of some public water systems, especially many small public water systems, the Federal Government needs to provide assistance to communities to help the communities meet Federal drinking water requirements;

(3) the Federal Government commits to maintaining and improving its partnership with the States in the administration and implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act;

(4) States play a central role in the implementation of safe drinking water programs, and States need increased financial resources and appropriate flexibility to ensure the prompt and effective development and implementation of drinking water programs;

(5) the existing process for the assessment and selection of additional drinking water contaminants needs to be revised and improved to ensure that there is a sound scientific basis for setting priorities in establishing drinking water regulations;

(6) procedures for assessing the health effects of contaminants establishing drinking water standards should be revised to provide greater opportunity for public education and participation;

(7) in considering the appropriate level of regulation for contaminants in drinking water, risk assessment, based on sound and objective science, and benefit-cost analysis are important analytical tools for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of drinking water regulations to protect human health;

(8) more effective protection of public health requires—

(A) a Federal commitment to set priorities that will allow scarce Federal, State, and local resources to be targeted toward the drinking water problems of greatest public health concern;

(B) maximizing the value of the different and complementary strengths and responsibilities of the Federal and State governments in those States that have primary enforcement responsibility for the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

(C) prevention of drinking water contamination through well-trained system operators, water systems with adequate managerial, technical, and financial capacity, and enhanced protection of source waters of public water systems;

(9) compliance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act continues to be a concern at public water systems experiencing technical and financial limitations, and Federal, State, and local governments need more resources and more effective authority to attain the objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

(10) consumers served by public water systems should be provided with information on the source of the water they are drinking and its quality and safety, as well as prompt notification of any violation of drinking water regulations.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1401 (42 U.S.C. 300f) is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by inserting ''accepted methods for'' before ''quality control''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: ''At any time after promulgation of a regulation referred to in this paragraph, the Administrator may add equally effective quality control and testing procedures by guidance published in the Federal Register. Such procedures shall be treated as an alternative for public water systems to the quality control and testing procedures listed in the regulation.''.

(2) In paragraph (13)—

(A) by striking ''The'' and inserting ''(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) For purposes of section 1452, the term 'State' means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.''.

(3) In paragraph (14), by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of section 1452, the term includes any Native village (as defined in section 3(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(c))).''.

(4) By adding at the end the following:

''(15) COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM.—The term 'community water system' means a public water system that—

''(A) serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents of the area served by the system; or

''(B) regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents.

''(16) NONCOMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM.—The term 'noncommunity water system' means a public water system that is not a community water system.''.

(b) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1401(4) (42 U.S.C. 300f(4)) is amended as follows:

(A) In the first sentence, by striking ''piped water for human consumption'' and inserting

''water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances''.

(B) By redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively.

(C) By striking ''(4) The'' and inserting the following:

''(4) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) CONNECTIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a connection to a system that delivers water by a constructed conveyance other than a pipe shall not be considered a connection, if—

''(I) the water is used exclusively for purposes other than residential uses (consisting of drinking, bathing, and cooking, or other similar uses);

''(II) the Administrator or the State (in the case of a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems) determines that alternative water to achieve the equivalent level of public health protection provided by the applicable national primary drinking water regulation is provided for residential or similar uses for drinking and cooking; or

''(III) the Administrator or the State (in the case of a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems) determines that the water provided for residential or similar uses for drinking, cooking, and bathing is centrally treated or treated at the point of entry by the provider, a pass-through entity, or the user to achieve the equivalent level of protection provided by the applicable national primary drinking water regulations.

''(ii) IRRIGATION DISTRICTS.—An irrigation district in existence prior to May 18, 1994, that provides primarily agricultural service through a piped water system with only incidental residential or similar use shall not be considered to be a public water system if the system or the residential or similar users of the system comply with subclause (II) or (III) of clause (i).

''(C) TRANSITION PERIOD.—A water supplier that would be a public water system only as a result of modifications made to this paragraph by the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 shall not be considered a public water system for purposes of the Act until the date that is two years after the date of enactment of this subparagraph. If a water supplier does not serve 15 service connections (as defined in subparagraphs (A) and (B)) or 25 people at any time after the conclusion of the 2-year period, the water supplier shall not be considered a public water system.''.

(2) GAO STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall undertake a study to—

(A) ascertain the numbers and locations of individuals and households relying for their residential water needs, including drinking, bathing, and cooking (or other similar uses) on irrigation water systems, mining water systems, industrial water systems, or other water systems covered by section 1401(4)(B) of the Safe Drinking Water Act that are not public water systems subject to the Safe Drinking Water Act;

(B) determine the sources and costs and affordability (to users and systems) of water used by such populations for their residential water needs; and

(C) review State and water system compliance with the exclusion provisions of section 1401(4)(B) of such Act.

The Comptroller General shall submit a report to the Congress within 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act containing the results of such study.

SEC. 102. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

(a) STANDARDS.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)) is amended by striking ''(b)(1)'' and all that follows through the end of paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(b) STANDARDS.—

''(1) IDENTIFICATION OF CONTAMINANTS FOR LISTING.—

''(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Administrator shall, in accordance with the procedures established by this subsection, publish a maximum contaminant level goal and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for a contaminant (other than a contaminant referred to in paragraph (2) for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated as of the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996) if the Administrator determines that—

''(i) the contaminant may have an adverse effect on the health of persons;

''(ii) the contaminant is known to occur or there is a substantial likelihood that the contaminant will occur in public water systems with a frequency and at levels of public health concern; and

''(iii) in the sole judgment of the Administrator, regulation of such contaminant presents a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction for persons served by public water systems.

''(B) REGULATION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—

''(i) LISTING OF CONTAMINANTS FOR CONSIDERATION.—(I) Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator, after consultation with the scientific community, including the Science Advisory Board, after notice and opportunity for public comment, and after considering the occurrence data base established under section 1445(g), shall publish a list of contaminants which, at the time of publication, are not subject to any proposed or promulgated national primary drinking water regulation, which are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems, and which may require regulation under this title.

''(II) The unregulated contaminants considered under subclause (I) shall include, but not be limited to, substances referred to in section 101(14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, and substances registered as pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

''(III) The Administrator's decision whether or not to select an unregulated contaminant for a list under this clause shall not be subject to judicial review.

''(ii) DETERMINATION TO REGULATE.—(I) Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator shall, after notice of the preliminary determination and opportunity for public comment, for not fewer than 5 contaminants included on the list published under clause (i), make determinations of whether or not to regulate such contaminants.

''(II) A determination to regulate a contaminant shall be based on findings that the criteria of clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A) are satisfied. Such findings shall be based on the best available public health information, including the occurrence data base established under section 1445(g).

''(III) The Administrator may make a determination to regulate a contaminant that does not appear on a list under clause (i) if the determination to regulate is made pursuant to subclause (II).

''(IV) A determination under this clause not to regulate a contaminant shall be considered final agency action and subject to judicial review.

''(iii) REVIEW.—Each document setting forth the determination for a contaminant under clause (ii) shall be available for public comment at such time as the determination is published.

''(C) PRIORITIES.—In selecting unregulated contaminants for consideration under subparagraph (B), the Administrator shall select contaminants that present the greatest public health concern. The Administrator, in making such selection, shall take into consideration, among other factors of public health concern, the effect of such contaminants upon subgroups that comprise a meaningful portion of the general population (such as infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, individuals with a history of serious illness, or other subpopulations) that are identifiable as being at greater risk of adverse health effects due to exposure to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

''(D) URGENT THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Administrator may promulgate an interim national primary drinking water regulation for a contaminant without making a determination for the contaminant under paragraph (4)(C), or completing the analysis under paragraph (3)(C), to address an urgent threat to public health as determined by the Administrator after consultation with and written response to any comments provided by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the director of the National Institutes of Health. A determination for any contaminant in accordance with paragraph (4)(C) subject to an interim regulation under this subparagraph shall be issued, and a completed analysis meeting the requirements of paragraph (3)(C) shall be published, not later than 3 years after the date on which the regulation is promulgated and the regulation shall be repromulgated, or revised if appropriate, not later than 5 years after that date.

''(E) REGULATION.—For each contaminant that the Administrator determines to regulate under subparagraph (B), the Administrator shall publish maximum contaminant level goals and promulgate, by rule, national primary drinking water regulations under this subsection. The Administrator shall propose the maximum contaminant level goal and national primary drinking water regulation for a contaminant not later than 24 months after the determination to regulate under subparagraph (B), and may publish such proposed regulation concurrent with the determination to regulate. The Administrator shall publish a maximum contaminant level goal and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation within 18 months after the proposal thereof. The Administrator, by notice in the Federal Register, may extend the deadline for such promulgation for up to 9 months.

''(F) HEALTH ADVISORIES AND OTHER ACTIONS.—The Administrator may publish health advisories (which are not regulations) or take other appropriate actions for contaminants not subject to any national primary drinking water regulation.

''(2) SCHEDULES AND DEADLINES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of the contaminants listed in the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in volume 47, Federal Register, page 9352, and in volume 48, Federal Register, page 45502, the Administrator shall publish maximum contaminant level goals and promulgate national primary drinking water regulations—

''(i) not later than 1 year after June 19, 1986, for not fewer than 9 of the listed contaminants;

''(ii) not later than 2 years after June 19, 1986, for not fewer than 40 of the listed contaminants; and

''(iii) not later than 3 years after June 19, 1986, for the remainder of the listed contaminants.

''(B) SUBSTITUTION OF CONTAMINANTS.—If the Administrator identifies a drinking water contaminant the regulation of which, in the judgment of the Administrator, is more likely to be protective of public health (taking into account the schedule for regulation under subparagraph (A)) than a contaminant referred to in subparagraph (A), the Administrator may publish a maximum contaminant level goal and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for the identified contaminant in lieu of regulating the contaminant referred to in subparagraph (A). Substitutions may be made for

not more than 7 contaminants referred to in subparagraph (A). Regulation of a contaminant identified under this subparagraph shall be in accordance with the schedule applicable to the contaminant for which the substitution is made.

''(C) DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS.—The Administrator shall promulgate an Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, a Final Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, a Stage I Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule, and a Stage II Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule in accordance with the schedule published in volume 59, Federal Register, page 6361 (February 10, 1994), in table III.13 of the proposed Information Collection Rule. If a delay occurs with respect to the promulgation of any rule in the schedule referred to in this subparagraph, all subsequent rules shall be completed as expeditiously as practicable but no later than a revised date that reflects the interval or intervals for the rules in the schedule.''.

(b) APPLICABILITY OF PRIOR REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of subparagraphs (C) and (D) of section 1412(b)(3) of the Safe Drinking Water Act as in effect before the date of enactment of this Act, and any obligation to promulgate regulations pursuant to such subparagraphs not promulgated as of the date of enactment of this Act, are superseded by the amendments made by subsection (a).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 1415(d) (42 U.S.C. 300g–4(d)) is amended by striking ''1412(b)(3)'' and inserting ''1412(b)''.

(2) Section 1412(a)(3) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(a)(3)) is amended by striking ''paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of'' in each place it appears.

SEC. 103. RISK ASSESSMENT, MANAGEMENT, AND COMMUNICATION.

Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) RISK ASSESSMENT, MANAGEMENT, AND COMMUNICATION.—

''(A) USE OF SCIENCE IN DECISIONMAKING.—In carrying out this section, and, to the degree that an Agency action is based on science, the Administrator shall use—

''(i) the best available, peer-reviewed science and supporting studies conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices; and

''(ii) data collected by accepted methods or best available methods (if the reliability of the method and the nature of the decision justifies use of the data).

''(B) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall ensure that the presentation of information on public health effects is comprehensive, informative, and understandable. The Administrator shall, in a document made available to the public in support of a regulation promulgated under this section, specify, to the extent practicable—

''(i) each population addressed by any estimate of public health effects;

''(ii) the expected risk or central estimate of risk for the specific populations;

''(iii) each appropriate upper-bound or lower-bound estimate of risk;

''(iv) each significant uncertainty identified in the process of the assessment of public health effects and studies that would assist in resolving the uncertainty; and

''(v) peer-reviewed studies known to the Administrator that support, are directly relevant to, or fail to support any estimate of public health effects and the methodology used to reconcile inconsistencies in the scientific data.

''(C) HEALTH RISK REDUCTION AND COST ANALYSIS.—

''(i) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS.—When proposing any national primary drinking water regulation that includes a maximum contaminant level, the Administrator shall, with respect to a maximum contaminant level that is being considered in accordance with paragraph (4) and each alternative maximum contaminant level that is being considered pursuant to paragraph (5) or (6)(A), publish, seek public comment on, and use for the purposes of paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) an analysis of each of the following:

''(I) Quantifiable and nonquantifiable health risk reduction benefits for which there is a factual basis in the rulemaking record to conclude that such benefits are likely to occur as the result of treatment to comply with each level.

''(II) Quantifiable and nonquantifiable health risk reduction benefits for which there is a factual basis in the rulemaking record to conclude that such benefits are likely to occur from reductions in co-occurring contaminants that may be attributed solely to compliance with the maximum contaminant level, excluding benefits resulting from compliance with other proposed or promulgated regulations.

''(III) Quantifiable and nonquantifiable costs for which there is a factual basis in the rulemaking record to conclude that such costs are likely to occur solely as a result of compliance with the maximum contaminant level, including monitoring, treatment, and other costs and excluding costs resulting from compliance with other proposed or promulgated regulations.

''(IV) The incremental costs and benefits associated with each alternative maximum contaminant level considered.

''(V) The effects of the contaminant on the general population and on groups within the general population such as infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, individuals with a history of serious illness, or other subpopulations that are identified as likely to be at greater risk of adverse health effects due to exposure to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

''(VI) Any increased health risk that may occur as the result of compliance, including risks associated with co-occurring contaminants.

''(VII) Other relevant factors, including the quality and extent of the information, the uncertainties in the analysis supporting subclauses (I) through (VI), and factors with respect to the degree and nature of the risk.

''(ii) TREATMENT TECHNIQUES.—When proposing a national primary drinking water regulation that includes a treatment technique in accordance with paragraph (7)(A), the Administrator shall publish and seek public comment on an analysis of the health risk reduction benefits and costs likely to be experienced as the result of compliance with the treatment technique and alternative treatment techniques that are being considered, taking into account, as appropriate, the factors described in clause (i).

''(iii) APPROACHES TO MEASURE AND VALUE BENEFITS.—The Administrator may identify valid approaches for the measurement and valuation of benefits under this subparagraph, including approaches to identify consumer willingness to pay for reductions in health risks from drinking water contaminants.

''(iv) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator, acting through the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, to conduct studies, assessments, and analyses in support of regulations or the development of methods, $35,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1996 through 2003.''.

SEC. 104. STANDARD-SETTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)) is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking ''(4) Each'' and inserting the following:

''(4) GOALS AND STANDARDS.—

''(A) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOALS.—Each'';

(B) in the last sentence—

(i) by striking ''Each national'' and inserting the following:

''(B) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS.— Except as provided in paragraphs (5) and (6), each national''; and

(ii) by striking ''maximum level'' and inserting ''maximum contaminant level''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) DETERMINATION.—At the time the Administrator proposes a national primary drinking water regulation under this paragraph, the Administrator shall publish a determination as to whether the benefits of the maximum contaminant level justify, or do not justify, the costs based on the analysis conducted under paragraph (3)(C).''.

(2) By striking ''(5) For the'' and inserting the following:

''(D) DEFINITION OF FEASIBLE.—For the''.

(3) In the second sentence of paragraph (4)(D) (as so designated), by striking ''paragraph (4)'' and inserting ''this paragraph''.

(4) By striking ''(6) Each national'' and inserting the following:

''(E) FEASIBLE TECHNOLOGIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Each national''.

(5) In paragraph (4)(E)(i) (as so designated), by striking ''this paragraph'' and inserting ''this subsection''.

(6) By inserting after paragraph (4) (as so amended) the following:

''(5) ADDITIONAL HEALTH RISK CONSIDERATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (4), the Administrator may establish a maximum contaminant level for a contaminant at a level other than the feasible level, if the technology, treatment techniques, and other means used to determine the feasible level would result in an increase in the health risk from drinking water by—

''(i) increasing the concentration of other contaminants in drinking water; or

''(ii) interfering with the efficacy of drinking water treatment techniques or processes that are used to comply with other national primary drinking water regulations.

''(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF LEVEL.—If the Administrator establishes a maximum contaminant level or levels or requires the use of treatment techniques for any contaminant or contaminants pursuant to the authority of this paragraph—

''(i) the level or levels or treatment techniques shall minimize the overall risk of adverse health effects by balancing the risk from the contaminant and the risk from other contaminants the concentrations of which may be affected by the use of a treatment technique or process that would be employed to attain the maximum contaminant level or levels; and

''(ii) the combination of technology, treatment techniques, or other means required to meet the level or levels shall not be more stringent than is feasible (as defined in paragraph (4)(D)).

''(6) ADDITIONAL HEALTH RISK REDUCTION AND COST CONSIDERATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (4), if the Administrator determines based on an analysis conducted under paragraph (3)(C) that the benefits of a maximum contaminant level promulgated in accordance with paragraph (4) would not justify the costs of complying with the level, the Administrator may, after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate a maximum contaminant level for the contaminant that maximizes health risk reduction benefits at a cost that is justified by the benefits.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—The Administrator shall not use the authority of this paragraph to promulgate a maximum contaminant level for a contaminant, if the benefits of compliance with a national primary drinking water regulation for the contaminant that would be promulgated in accordance with paragraph (4) experienced by—

''(i) persons served by large public water systems; and

''(ii) persons served by such other systems as are unlikely, based on information provided by the States, to receive a variance under section 1415(e) (relating to small system variances);

would justify the costs to the systems of complying with the regulation. This subparagraph shall not apply if the contaminant is found almost exclusively in small systems eligible under section 1415(e) for a small system variance.

''(C) DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS.—The Administrator may not use the authority of this paragraph to establish a maximum contaminant level in a Stage I or Stage II national primary drinking water regulation (as described in paragraph (2)(C)) for contaminants that are disinfectants or disinfection byproducts, or to establish a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement for the control of cryptosporidium. The authority of this paragraph may be used to establish regulations for the use of disinfection by systems relying on ground water sources as required by paragraph (8).

''(D) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—A determination by the Administrator that the benefits of a maximum contaminant level or treatment requirement justify or do not justify the costs of complying with the level shall be reviewed by the court pursuant to section 1448 only as part of a review of a final national primary drinking water regulation that has been promulgated based on the determination and shall not be set aside by the court under that section unless the court finds that the determination is arbitrary and capricious.''.

(b) DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may use the authority of section 1412(b)(5) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (as amended by this Act) to promulgate the Stage I and Stage II Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rules as proposed in volume 59, Federal Register, page 38668 (July 29, 1994). The considerations used in the development of the July 29, 1994, proposed national primary drinking water regulation on disinfectants and disinfection byproducts shall be treated as consistent with such section 1412(b)(5) for purposes of such Stage I and Stage II rules.

(c) REVIEW OF STANDARDS.—Section 1412(b)(9) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)(9)) is amended to read as follows:

''(9) REVIEW AND REVISION.—The Administrator shall, not less often than every 6 years, review and revise, as appropriate, each national primary drinking water regulation promulgated under this title. Any revision of a national primary drinking water regulation shall be promulgated in accordance with this section, except that each revision shall maintain, or provide for greater, protection of the health of persons.''.

SEC. 105. TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR SMALL SYSTEMS.

Section 1412(b)(4)(E) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)(4)(E)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) LIST OF TECHNOLOGIES FOR SMALL SYSTEMS.—The Administrator shall include in the list any technology, treatment technique, or other means that is affordable, as determined by the Administrator in consultation with the States, for small public water systems serving—

''(I) a population of 10,000 or fewer but more than 3,300;

''(II) a population of 3,300 or fewer but more than 500; and

''(III) a population of 500 or fewer but more than 25;

and that achieves compliance with the maximum contaminant level or treatment technique, including packaged or modular systems and point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment units. Point-of-entry and point-of-use treatment units shall be owned, controlled and maintained by the public water system or by a person under contract with the public water system to ensure proper operation and maintenance and compliance with the maximum contaminant level or treatment technique and equipped with mechanical warnings to ensure that customers are automatically notified of operational problems. The Administrator shall not include in the list any point-of-use treatment technology, treatment technique, or other means to achieve compliance with a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement for a microbial contaminant (or an indicator of a microbial contaminant). If the American National Standards Institute has issued product standards applicable to a specific type of point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment unit, individual units of that type shall not be accepted for compliance with a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement unless they are independently certified in accordance with such standards. In listing any technology, treatment technique, or other means pursuant to this clause, the Administrator shall consider the quality of the source water to be treated.

''(iii) LIST OF TECHNOLOGIES THAT ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE.—Except as provided in clause (v), not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this clause and after consultation with the States, the Administrator shall issue a list of technologies that achieve compliance with the maximum contaminant level or treatment technique for each category of public water systems described in subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (ii) for each national primary drinking water regulation promulgated prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph.

''(iv) ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGIES.—The Administrator may, at any time after a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated, supplement the list of technologies describing additional or new or innovative treatment technologies that meet the requirements of this paragraph for categories of small public water systems described in subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (ii) that are subject to the regulation.

''(v) TECHNOLOGIES THAT MEET SURFACE WATER TREATMENT RULE.—Within one year after the date of enactment of this clause, the Administrator shall list technologies that meet the Surface Water Treatment Rule for each category of public water systems described in subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (ii).''.

SEC. 106. LIMITED ALTERNATIVE TO FILTRATION.

Section 1412(b)(7)(C) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)(7)(C)) is amended by adding the following after clause (iv):

''(v) As an additional alternative to the regulations promulgated pursuant to clauses (i) and (iii), including the criteria for avoiding filtration contained in 40 CFR 141.71, a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems may, on a case-by-case basis, and after notice and opportunity for public comment, establish treatment requirements as an alternative to filtration in the case of systems having uninhabited, undeveloped watersheds in consolidated ownership, and having control over access to, and activities in, those watersheds, if the State determines (and the Administrator concurs) that the quality of the source water and the alternative treatment requirements established by the State ensure greater removal or inactivation efficiencies of pathogenic organisms for which national primary drinking water regulations have been promulgated or that are of public health concern than would be achieved by the combination of filtration and chlorine disinfection (in compliance with this section).''.

SEC. 107. GROUND WATER DISINFECTION.

Paragraph (8) of section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)(8)) is amended by moving the margins of such paragraph 2 ems to the right and by striking the first sentence and inserting the following: ''DISINFECTION.—At any time after the end of the 3-year period that begins on the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, but not later than the date on which the Administrator promulgates a Stage II rulemaking for disinfectants and disinfection byproducts (as described in paragraph (2)(C)), the Administrator shall also promulgate national primary drinking water regulations requiring disinfection as a treatment technique for all public water systems, including surface water systems and, as necessary, ground water systems. After consultation with the States, the Administrator shall (as part of the regulations) promulgate criteria that the Administrator, or a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413, shall apply to determine whether disinfection shall be required as a treatment technique for any public water system served by ground water.''.

SEC. 108. EFFECTIVE DATE FOR REGULATIONS.

Section 1412(b)(10) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)(10)) is amended to read as follows:

''(10) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A national primary drinking water regulation promulgated under this section (and any amendment thereto) shall take effect on the date that is 3 years after the date on which the regulation is promulgated unless the Administrator determines that an earlier date is practicable, except that the Administrator, or a State (in the case of an individual system), may allow up to 2 additional years to comply with a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique if the Administrator or State (in the case of an individual system) determines that additional time is necessary for capital improvements.''.

SEC. 109. ARSENIC, SULFATE, AND RADON.

(a) ARSENIC AND SULFATE.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

''(12) CERTAIN CONTAMINANTS.—

''(A) ARSENIC.—

''(i) SCHEDULE AND STANDARD.—Notwithstanding the deadlines set forth in paragraph (1), the Administrator shall promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for arsenic pursuant to this subsection, in accordance with the schedule established by this paragraph.

''(ii) STUDY PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall develop a comprehensive plan for study in support of drinking water rulemaking to reduce the uncertainty in assessing health risks associated with exposure to low levels of arsenic. In conducting such study, the Administrator shall consult with the National Academy of Sciences, other Federal agencies, and interested public and private entities.

''(iii) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—In carrying out the study plan, the Administrator may enter into cooperative agreements with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and other interested public and private entities.

''(iv) PROPOSED REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall propose a national primary drinking water regulation for arsenic not later than January 1, 2000.

''(v) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than January 1, 2001, after notice and opportunity for public comment, the Administrator shall promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for arsenic.

''(vi) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated $2,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2000 for the studies required by this paragraph.

''(B) SULFATE.—

''(i) ADDITIONAL STUDY.—Prior to promulgating a national primary drinking water regulation for sulfate, the Administrator and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall jointly conduct an additional study to establish a reliable dose-response relationship for the adverse human health effects that may result from exposure to sulfate in drinking water, including the health effects that may be experienced by groups within the general population (including infants and travelers) that are potentially at greater risk of adverse health effects as the result of such exposure. The study shall be conducted in consultation with interested States, shall be based on the best available, peer-reviewed science and supporting studies conducted in accordance with

sound and objective scientific practices, and shall be completed not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996.

''(ii) DETERMINATION.—The Administrator shall include sulfate among the 5 or more contaminants for which a determination is made pursuant to paragraph (3)(B) not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996.

''(iii) PROPOSED AND FINAL RULE.—Notwithstanding the deadlines set forth in paragraph (2), the Administrator may, pursuant to the authorities of this subsection and after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate a final national primary drinking water regulation for sulfate. Any such regulation shall include requirements for public notification and options for the provision of alternative water supplies to populations at risk as a means of complying with the regulation in lieu of a best available treatment technology or other means.''.

(b) RADON.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (12) the following:

''(13) RADON IN DRINKING WATER.—

''(A) NATIONAL PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the Administrator shall withdraw any national primary drinking water regulation for radon proposed prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph and shall propose and promulgate a regulation for radon under this section, as amended by the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996.

''(B) RISK ASSESSMENT AND STUDIES.—

''(i) ASSESSMENT BY NAS.—Prior to proposing a national primary drinking water regulation for radon, the Administrator shall arrange for the National Academy of Sciences to prepare a risk assessment for radon in drinking water using the best available science in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (3). The risk assessment shall consider each of the risks associated with exposure to radon from drinking water and consider studies on the health effects of radon at levels and under conditions likely to be experienced through residential exposure. The risk assessment shall be peer-reviewed.

''(ii) STUDY OF OTHER MEASURES.—The Administrator shall arrange for the National Academy of Sciences to prepare an assessment of the health risk reduction benefits associated with various mitigation measures to reduce radon levels in indoor air. The assessment may be conducted as part of the risk assessment authorized by clause (i) and shall be used by the Administrator to prepare the guidance and approve State programs under subparagraph (G).

''(iii) OTHER ORGANIZATION.—If the National Academy of Sciences declines to prepare the risk assessment or studies required by this subparagraph, the Administrator shall enter into a contract or cooperative agreement with another independent, scientific organization to prepare such assessments or studies.

''(C) HEALTH RISK REDUCTION AND COST ANALYSIS.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall publish, and seek public comment on, a health risk reduction and cost analysis meeting the requirements of paragraph (3)(C) for potential maximum contaminant levels that are being considered for radon in drinking water. The Administrator shall include a response to all significant public comments received on the analysis with the preamble for the proposed rule published under subparagraph (D).

''(D) PROPOSED REGULATION.—Not later than 36 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall propose a maximum contaminant level goal and a national primary drinking water regulation for radon pursuant to this section.

''(E) FINAL REGULATION.—Not later than 12 months after the date of the proposal under subparagraph (D), the Administrator shall publish a maximum contaminant level goal and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for radon pursuant to this section based on the risk assessment prepared pursuant to subparagraph (B) and the health risk reduction and cost analysis published pursuant to subparagraph (C). In considering the risk assessment and the health risk reduction and cost analysis in connection with the promulgation of such a standard, the Administrator shall take into account the costs and benefits of control programs for radon from other sources.

''(F) ALTERNATIVE MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL.—If the maximum contaminant level for radon in drinking water promulgated pursuant to subparagraph (E) is more stringent than necessary to reduce the contribution to radon in indoor air from drinking water to a concentration that is equivalent to the national average concentration of radon in outdoor air, the Administrator shall, simultaneously with the promulgation of such level, promulgate an alternative maximum contaminant level for radon that would result in a contribution of radon from drinking water to radon levels in indoor air equivalent to the national average concentration of radon in outdoor air. If the Administrator promulgates an alternative maximum contaminant level under this subparagraph, the Administrator shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment and in consultation with the States, publish guidelines for State programs, including criteria for multimedia measures to mitigate radon levels in indoor air, to be used by the States in preparing programs under subparagraph (G). The guidelines shall take into account data from existing radon mitigation programs and the assessment of mitigation measures prepared under subparagraph (B).

''(G) MULTIMEDIA RADON MITIGATION PROGRAMS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A State may develop and submit a multimedia program to mitigate radon levels in indoor air for approval by the Administrator under this subparagraph. If, after notice and the opportunity for public comment, such program is approved by the Administrator, public water systems in the State may comply with the alternative maximum contaminant level promulgated under subparagraph (F) in lieu of the maximum contaminant level in the national primary drinking water regulation promulgated under subparagraph (E).

''(ii) ELEMENTS OF PROGRAMS.—State programs may rely on a variety of mitigation measures including public education, testing, training, technical assistance, remediation grant and loan or incentive programs, or other regulatory or nonregulatory measures. The effectiveness of elements in State programs shall be evaluated by the Administrator based on the assessment prepared by the National Academy of Sciences under subparagraph (B) and the guidelines published by the Administrator under subparagraph (F).

''(iii) APPROVAL.—The Administrator shall approve a State program submitted under this paragraph if the health risk reduction benefits expected to be achieved by the program are equal to or greater than the health risk reduction benefits that would be achieved if each public water system in the State complied with the maximum contaminant level promulgated under subparagraph (E). The Administrator shall approve or disapprove a program submitted under this paragraph within 180 days of receipt. A program that is not disapproved during such period shall be deemed approved. A program that is disapproved may be modified to address the objections of the Administrator and be resubmitted for approval.

''(iv) REVIEW.—The Administrator shall periodically, but not less often than every 5 years, review each multimedia mitigation program approved under this subparagraph to determine whether it continues to meet the requirements of clause (iii) and shall, after written notice to the State and an opportunity for the State to correct any deficiency in the program, withdraw approval of programs that no longer comply with such requirements.

''(v) EXTENSION.—If, within 90 days after the promulgation of an alternative maximum contaminant level under subparagraph (F), the Governor of a State submits a letter to the Administrator committing to develop a multimedia mitigation program under this subparagraph, the effective date of the national primary drinking water regulation for radon in the State that would be applicable under paragraph (10) shall be extended for a period of 18 months.

''(vi) LOCAL PROGRAMS.—In the event that a State chooses not to submit a multimedia mitigation program for approval under this subparagraph or has submitted a program that has been disapproved, any public water system in the State may submit a program for approval by the Administrator according to the same criteria, conditions, and approval process that would apply to a State program. The Administrator shall approve a multimedia mitigation program if the health risk reduction benefits expected to be achieved by the program are equal to or greater than the health risk reduction benefits that would result from compliance by the public water system with the maximum contaminant level for radon promulgated under subparagraph (E).''.

SEC. 110. RECYCLING OF FILTER BACKWASH.

Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)) is amended by adding the following new paragraph after paragraph (13):

''(14) RECYCLING OF FILTER BACKWASH.—The Administrator shall promulgate a regulation to govern the recycling of filter backwash water within the treatment process of a public water system. The Administrator shall promulgate such regulation not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 unless such recycling has been addressed by the Administrator's Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule prior to such date.''.

SEC. 111. TECHNOLOGY AND TREATMENT TECHNIQUES.

(a) VARIANCE TECHNOLOGIES.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)) is amended by adding the following new paragraph after paragraph (14):

''(15) VARIANCE TECHNOLOGIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At the same time as the Administrator promulgates a national primary drinking water regulation for a contaminant pursuant to this section, the Administrator shall issue guidance or regulations describing the best treatment technologies, treatment techniques, or other means (referred to in this paragraph as 'variance technology') for the contaminant that the Administrator finds, after examination for efficacy under field conditions and not solely under laboratory conditions, are available and affordable, as determined by the Administrator in consultation with the States, for public water systems of varying size, considering the quality of the source water to be treated. The Administrator shall identify such variance technologies for public water systems serving—

''(i) a population of 10,000 or fewer but more than 3,300;

''(ii) a population of 3,300 or fewer but more than 500; and

''(iii) a population of 500 or fewer but more than 25,

if, considering the quality of the source water to be treated, no treatment technology is listed for public water systems of that size under paragraph (4)(E). Variance technologies identified by the Administrator pursuant to this paragraph may not achieve compliance with the maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement of such regulation, but shall achieve the maximum reduction or inactivation efficiency that is affordable considering the size of the system and the quality of the source water. The guidance or regulations shall not require the use of a technology from a specific manufacturer or brand.

''(B) LIMITATION.—The Administrator shall not identify any variance technology under this paragraph, unless the Administrator has determined, considering the quality of the source water to be treated and the expected useful life of the technology, that the variance technology is protective of public health.

''(C) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—The Administrator shall include in the guidance or regulations identifying variance technologies under this paragraph any assumptions supporting the public health determination referred to in subparagraph (B), where such assumptions concern the public water system to which the technology may be applied, or its source waters. The Administrator shall provide any assumptions used in determining affordability, taking into consideration the number of persons served by such systems. The Administrator shall provide as much reliable information as practicable on performance, effectiveness, limitations, costs, and other relevant factors including the applicability of variance technology to waters from surface and underground sources.

''(D) REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph and after consultation with the States, the Administrator shall issue guidance or regulations under subparagraph (A) for each national primary drinking water regulation promulgated prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph for which a variance may be granted under section 1415(e). The Administrator may, at any time after a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated, issue guidance or regulations describing additional variance technologies. The Administrator shall, not less often than every 7 years, or upon receipt of a petition supported by substantial information, review variance technologies identified under this paragraph. The Administrator shall issue revised guidance or regulations if new or innovative variance technologies become available that meet the requirements of this paragraph and achieve an equal or greater reduction or inactivation efficiency than the variance technologies previously identified under this subparagraph. No public water system shall be required to replace a variance technology during the useful life of the technology for the sole reason that a more efficient variance technology has been listed under this subparagraph.''.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON SMALL SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES.—Section 1445 (42 U.S.C. 300j–4) is amended by adding the following new subsection after subsection (g):

''(h) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON SMALL SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES.—For purposes of sections 1412(b)(4)(E) and 1415(e) (relating to small system variance program), the Administrator may request information on the characteristics of commercially available treatment systems and technologies, including the effectiveness and performance of the systems and technologies under various operating conditions. The Administrator may specify the form, content, and submission date of information to be submitted by manufacturers, States, and other interested persons for the purpose of considering the systems and technologies in the development of regulations or guidance under sections 1412(b)(4)(E) and 1415(e).''.

SEC. 112. STATE PRIMACY.

(a) STATE PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITY.—Section 1413 (42 U.S.C. 300g–2) is amended as follows:

(1) In subsection (a), by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) has adopted drinking water regulations that are no less stringent than the national primary drinking water regulations promulgated by the Administrator under subsections (a) and (b) of section 1412 not later than 2 years after the date on which the regulations are promulgated by the Administrator, except that the Administrator may provide for an extension of not more than 2 years if, after submission and review of appropriate, adequate documentation from the State, the Administrator determines that the extension is necessary and justified;''.

(2) By adding at the end the following subsection:

''(c) INTERIM PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—A State that has primary enforcement authority under this section with respect to each existing national primary drinking water regulation shall be considered to have primary enforcement authority with respect to each new or revised national primary drinking water regulation during the period beginning on the effective date of a regulation adopted and submitted by the State with respect to the new or revised national primary drinking water regulation in accordance with subsection (b)(1) and ending at such time as the Administrator makes a determination under subsection (b)(2)(B) with respect to the regulation.''.

(b) EMERGENCY PLANS.—Section 1413(a)(5) (42 U.S.C. 300g–2(a)(5)) is amended by inserting after ''emergency circumstances'' the following: ''including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters, as appropriate''.

SEC. 113. ENFORCEMENT; JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1414 (42 U.S.C. 300g–3) is amended as follows:

(1) In subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking ''any national primary drinking water regulation in effect under section 1412'' and inserting ''any applicable requirement''; and

(II) by striking ''with such regulation or requirement'' and inserting ''with the requirement''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''regulation or'' and inserting ''applicable''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) ENFORCEMENT IN NONPRIMACY STATES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If, on the basis of information available to the Administrator, the Administrator finds, with respect to a period in which a State does not have primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems, that a public water system in the State—

''(i) for which a variance under section 1415 or an exemption under section 1416 is not in effect, does not comply with any applicable requirement; or

''(ii) for which a variance under section 1415 or an exemption under section 1416 is in effect, does not comply with any schedule or other requirement imposed pursuant to the variance or exemption;

the Administrator shall issue an order under subsection (g) requiring the public water system to comply with the requirement, or commence a civil action under subsection (b).

''(B) NOTICE.—If the Administrator takes any action pursuant to this paragraph, the Administrator shall notify an appropriate local elected official, if any, with jurisdiction over the public water system of the action prior to the time that the action is taken.''.

(2) In the first sentence of subsection (b), by striking ''a national primary drinking water regulation'' and inserting ''any applicable requirement''.

(3) In subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''regulation, schedule, or other'' each place it appears and inserting ''applicable'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the first sentence—

(I) by striking ''effect until after notice and opportunity for public hearing and,'' and inserting ''effect,''; and

(II) by striking ''proposed order'' and inserting ''order''; and

(ii) in the second sentence, by striking ''proposed to be''; and

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) In a case in which a civil penalty sought by the Administrator under this paragraph does not exceed $5,000, the penalty shall be assessed by the Administrator after notice and opportunity for a public hearing (unless the person against whom the penalty is assessed requests a hearing on the record in accordance with section 554 of title 5, United States Code). In a case in which a civil penalty sought by the Administrator under this paragraph exceeds $5,000, but does not exceed $25,000, the penalty shall be assessed by the Administrator after notice and opportunity for a hearing on the record in accordance with section 554 of title 5, United States Code.''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''paragraph exceeds $5,000'' and inserting ''subsection for a violation of an applicable requirement exceeds $25,000''.

(4) By adding at the end the following:

''(h) CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An owner or operator of a public water system may submit to the State in which the system is located (if the State has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) or to the Administrator (if the State does not have primary enforcement responsibility) a plan (including specific measures and schedules) for—

''(A) the physical consolidation of the system with 1 or more other systems;

''(B) the consolidation of significant management and administrative functions of the system with 1 or more other systems; or

''(C) the transfer of ownership of the system that may reasonably be expected to improve drinking water quality.

''(2) CONSEQUENCES OF APPROVAL.—If the State or the Administrator approves a plan pursuant to paragraph (1), no enforcement action shall be taken pursuant to this part with respect to a specific violation identified in the approved plan prior to the date that is the earlier of the date on which consolidation is completed according to the plan or the date that is 2 years after the plan is approved.

''(i) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE REQUIREMENT.—In this section, the term 'applicable requirement' means—

''(1) a requirement of section 1412, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1417, 1441, or 1445;

''(2) a regulation promulgated pursuant to a section referred to in paragraph (1);

''(3) a schedule or requirement imposed pursuant to a section referred to in paragraph (1); and

''(4) a requirement of, or permit issued under, an applicable State program for which the Administrator has made a determination that the requirements of section 1413 have been satisfied, or an applicable State program approved pursuant to this part.''.

(b) STATE AUTHORITY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES.—Section 1413(a) (42 U.S.C. 300g–2(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (4);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5) and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) has adopted authority for administrative penalties (unless the constitution of the State prohibits the adoption of the authority) in a maximum amount—

''(A) in the case of a system serving a population of more than 10,000, that is not less than $1,000 per day per violation; and

''(B) in the case of any other system, that is adequate to ensure compliance (as determined by the State);

except that a State may establish a maximum limitation on the total amount of administrative penalties that may be imposed on a public water system per violation.''.

(c) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Section 1448(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j–7(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) of the first sentence, by inserting ''final'' after ''any other'';

(2) in the second sentence, by striking ''or issuance of the order'' and inserting ''or any other final Agency action''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following ''In any petition concerning the assessment of a civil penalty pursuant to section 1414(g)(3)(B), the petitioner shall simultaneously send a copy of the complaint by certified mail to the Administrator and the Attorney General. The court shall set aside and remand the penalty order if the court finds that there is not substantial evidence in the record to support the finding of a violation or that the assessment of the penalty by the Administrator constitutes an abuse of discretion.''.

(d) EMERGENCY POWERS.—Section 1431(b) (42 U.S.C. 300i(b)) is amended by striking ''$5,000'' and inserting ''$15,000''.

SEC. 114. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.

(a) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS.—Section 1414(c) (42 U.S.C. 300g–3(c)) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) NOTICE TO PERSONS SERVED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each owner or operator of a public water system shall give notice of each of the following to the persons served by the system:

''(A) Notice of any failure on the part of the public water system to—

''(i) comply with an applicable maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement of, or a testing procedure prescribed by, a national primary drinking water regulation; or

''(ii) perform monitoring required by section 1445(a).

''(B) If the public water system is subject to a variance granted under subsection (a)(1)(A), (a)(2), or (e) of section 1415 for an inability to meet a maximum contaminant level requirement or is subject to an exemption granted under section 1416, notice of—

''(i) the existence of the variance or exemption; and

''(ii) any failure to comply with the requirements of any schedule prescribed pursuant to the variance or exemption.

''(C) Notice of the concentration level of any unregulated contaminant for which the Administrator has required public notice pursuant to paragraph (2)(E).

''(2) FORM, MANNER, AND FREQUENCY OF NOTICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, by regulation, and after consultation with the States, prescribe the manner, frequency, form, and content for giving notice under this subsection. The regulations shall—

''(i) provide for different frequencies of notice based on the differences between violations that are intermittent or infrequent and violations that are continuous or frequent; and

''(ii) take into account the seriousness of any potential adverse health effects that may be involved.

''(B) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A State may, by rule, establish alternative notification requirements—

''(I) with respect to the form and content of notice given under and in a manner in accordance with subparagraph (C); and

''(II) with respect to the form and content of notice given under subparagraph (D).

''(ii) CONTENTS.—The alternative requirements shall provide the same type and amount of information as required pursuant to this subsection and regulations issued under subparagraph (A).

''(iii) RELATIONSHIP TO SECTION 1413.—Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed or applied to modify the requirements of section 1413.

''(C) VIOLATIONS WITH POTENTIAL TO HAVE SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON HUMAN HEALTH.—Regulations issued under subparagraph (A) shall specify notification procedures for each violation by a public water system that has the potential to have serious adverse effects on human health as a result of short-term exposure. Each notice of violation provided under this subparagraph shall—

''(i) be distributed as soon as practicable after the occurrence of the violation, but not later than 24 hours after the occurrence of the violation;

''(ii) provide a clear and readily understandable explanation of—

''(I) the violation;

''(II) the potential adverse effects on human health;

''(III) the steps that the public water system is taking to correct the violation; and

''(IV) the necessity of seeking alternative water supplies until the violation is corrected;

''(iii) be provided to the Administrator or the head of the State agency that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 as soon as practicable, but not later than 24 hours after the occurrence of the violation; and

''(iv) as required by the State agency in general regulations of the State agency, or on a case-by-case basis after the consultation referred to in clause (iii), considering the health risks involved—

''(I) be provided to appropriate broadcast media;

''(II) be prominently published in a newspaper of general circulation serving the area not later than 1 day after distribution of a notice pursuant to clause (i) or the date of publication of the next issue of the newspaper; or

''(III) be provided by posting or door-to-door notification in lieu of notification by means of broadcast media or newspaper.

''(D) WRITTEN NOTICE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Regulations issued under subparagraph (A) shall specify notification procedures for violations other than the violations covered by subparagraph (C). The procedures shall specify that a public water system shall provide written notice to each person served by the system by notice (I) in the first bill (if any) prepared after the date of occurrence of the violation, (II) in an annual report issued not later than 1 year after the date of occurrence of the violation, or (III) by mail or direct delivery as soon as practicable, but not later than 1 year after the date of occurrence of the violation.

''(ii) FORM AND MANNER OF NOTICE.—The Administrator shall prescribe the form and manner of the notice to provide a clear and readily understandable explanation of the violation, any potential adverse health effects, and the steps that the system is taking to seek alternative water supplies, if any, until the violation is corrected.

''(E) UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—The Administrator may require the owner or operator of a public water system to give notice to the persons served by the system of the concentration levels of an unregulated contaminant required to be monitored under section 1445(a).

''(3) REPORTS.—

''(A) ANNUAL REPORT BY STATE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, each State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 shall prepare, make readily available to the public, and submit to the Administrator an annual report on violations of national primary drinking water regulations by public water systems in the State, including violations with respect to (I) maximum contaminant levels, (II) treatment requirements, (III) variances and exemptions, and (IV) monitoring requirements determined to be significant by the Administrator after consultation with the States.

''(ii) DISTRIBUTION.—The State shall publish and distribute summaries of the report and indicate where the full report is available for review.

''(B) ANNUAL REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR.—Not later than July 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall prepare and make available to the public an annual report summarizing and evaluating reports submitted by States pursuant to subparagraph (A) and notices submitted by public water systems serving Indian Tribes provided to the Administrator pursuant to subparagraph (C) or (D) of paragraph (2) and making recommendations concerning the resources needed to improve compliance with this title. The report shall include information about public water system compliance on Indian reservations and about enforcement activities undertaken and financial assistance provided by the Administrator on Indian reservations, and shall make specific recommendations concerning the resources needed to improve compliance with this title on Indian reservations.

''(4) CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS BY COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS.—

''(A) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONSUMERS.—The Administrator, in consultation with public water systems, environmental groups, public interest groups, risk communication experts, and the States, and other interested parties, shall issue regulations within 24 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph to require each community water system to mail to each customer of the system at least once annually a report on the level of contaminants in the drinking water purveyed by that system (referred to in this paragraph as a 'consumer confidence report'). Such regulations shall provide a brief and plainly worded definition of the terms 'maximum contaminant level goal', 'maximum contaminant level', 'variances', and 'exemptions' and brief statements in plain language regarding the health concerns that resulted in regulation of each regulated contaminant. The regulations shall also include a brief and plainly worded explanation regarding contaminants that may reasonably be expected to be present in drinking water, including bottled water. The regulations shall also provide for an Environmental Protection Agency toll-free hotline that consumers can call for more information and explanation.

''(B) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The consumer confidence reports under this paragraph shall include, but not be limited to, each of the following:

''(i) Information on the source of the water purveyed.

''(ii) A brief and plainly worded definition of the terms 'maximum contaminant level goal', 'maximum contaminant level', 'variances', and 'exemptions' as provided in the regulations of the Administrator.

''(iii) If any regulated contaminant is detected in the water purveyed by the public water system, a statement setting forth (I) the maximum contaminant level goal, (II) the maximum contaminant level, (III) the level of such contaminant in such water system, and (IV) for any regulated contaminant for which there has been a violation of the maximum contaminant level during the year concerned, the brief statement in plain language regarding the health concerns that resulted in regulation of such contaminant, as provided by the Administrator in regulations under subparagraph (A).

''(iv) Information on compliance with national primary drinking water regulations, as required by the Administrator, and notice if the system is operating under a variance or exemption and the basis on which the variance or exemption was granted.

''(v) Information on the levels of unregulated contaminants for which monitoring is required under section 1445(a)(2) (including levels of cryptosporidium and radon where States determine they may be found).

''(vi) A statement that the presence of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the drinking water poses a health risk and that more information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency hotline.

A public water system may include such additional information as it deems appropriate for public education. The Administrator may, for not more than 3 regulated contaminants other than those referred to in subclause (IV) of clause (iii), require a consumer confidence report under this paragraph to include the brief statement in plain language regarding the health concerns that resulted in regulation of the contaminant or contaminants concerned, as provided by the Administrator in regulations under subparagraph (A).

''(C) COVERAGE.—The Governor of a State may determine not to apply the mailing requirement of subparagraph (A) to a community water system serving fewer than 10,000 persons. Any such system shall—

''(i) inform, in the newspaper notice required by clause (iii) or by other means, its customers that the system will not be mailing the report as required by subparagraph (A);

''(ii) make the consumer confidence report available upon request to the public; and

''(iii) publish the report referred to in subparagraph (A) annually in one or more local newspapers serving the area in which customers of the system are located.

''(D) ALTERNATIVE TO PUBLICATION.—For any community water system which, pursuant to subparagraph (C), is not required to meet the mailing requirement of subparagraph (A) and which serves 500 persons or fewer, the community water system may elect not to comply with clause (i) or (iii) of subparagraph (C). If the community water system so elects, the system shall, at a minimum—

''(i) prepare an annual consumer confidence report pursuant to subparagraph (B); and

''(ii) provide notice at least once per year to each of its customers by mail, by door-to-door delivery, by posting or by other means authorized by the regulations of the Administrator that the consumer confidence report is available upon request.

''(E) ALTERNATIVE FORM AND CONTENT.—A State exercising primary enforcement responsibility may establish, by rule, after notice and public comment, alternative requirements with respect to the form and content of consumer confidence reports under this paragraph.''.

(b) BOTTLED WATER STUDY.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Food and Drug Administration, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall publish for public notice and comment a draft study on the feasibility of appropriate methods, if any, of informing customers of the contents of bottled water. The Administrator of the Food and Drug Administration shall publish a final study not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 115. VARIANCES.

The second sentence of section 1415(a)(1)(A) (42 U.S.C. 300g–4(a)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''only be issued to a system after the system's application of'' and inserting ''be issued to a system on condition that the system install''; and

(2) by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', and based upon an evaluation satisfactory to the State that indicates that alternative sources of water are not reasonably available to the system''.

SEC. 116. SMALL SYSTEMS VARIANCES.

(a) SMALL SYSTEM VARIANCES.—Section 1415 (42 U.S.C. 300g–4) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) SMALL SYSTEM VARIANCES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems under section 1413 (or the Administrator in nonprimacy States) may grant a variance under this subsection for compliance with a requirement specifying a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique contained in a national primary drinking water regulation to—

''(A) public water systems serving 3,300 or fewer persons; and

''(B) with the approval of the Administrator pursuant to paragraph (9), public water systems serving more than 3,300 persons but fewer than 10,000 persons,

if the variance meets each requirement of this subsection.

''(2) AVAILABILITY OF VARIANCES.—A public water system may receive a variance pursuant to paragraph (1), if—

''(A) the Administrator has identified a variance technology under section 1412(b)(15) that is applicable to the size and source water quality conditions of the public water system;

''(B) the public water system installs, operates, and maintains, in accordance with guidance or regulations issued by the Administrator, such treatment technology, treatment technique, or other means; and

''(C) the State in which the system is located determines that the conditions of paragraph (3) are met.

''(3) CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING VARIANCES.—A variance under this subsection shall be available only to a system—

''(A) that cannot afford to comply, in accordance with affordability criteria established by the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413), with a national primary drinking water regulation, including compliance through—

''(i) treatment;

''(ii) alternative source of water supply; or

''(iii) restructuring or consolidation (unless the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) makes a written determination that restructuring or consolidation is not practicable); and

''(B) for which the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) determines that the terms of the variance ensure adequate protection of human health, considering the quality of the source water for the system and the removal efficiencies and expected useful life of the treatment technology required by the variance.

''(4) COMPLIANCE SCHEDULES.—A variance granted under this subsection shall require compliance with the conditions of the variance not later than 3 years after the date on which the variance is granted, except that the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) may allow up to 2 additional years to comply with a variance technology, secure an alternative source of water, restructure or consolidate if the Administrator (or the State) determines that additional time is necessary for capital improvements, or to allow for financial assistance provided pursuant to section 1452 or any other Federal or State program.

''(5) DURATION OF VARIANCES.—The Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) shall review each variance granted under this subsection not less often than every 5 years after the compliance date established in the variance to determine whether the system remains eligible for the variance and is conforming to each condition of the variance.

''(6) INELIGIBILITY FOR VARIANCES.—A variance shall not be available under this subsection for—

''(A) any maximum contaminant level or treatment technique for a contaminant with respect to which a national primary drinking water regulation was promulgated prior to January 1, 1986; or

''(B) a national primary drinking water regulation for a microbial contaminant (including a bacterium, virus, or other organism) or an indicator or treatment technique for a microbial contaminant.

''(7) REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection and in consultation with the States, the Administrator shall promulgate regulations for variances to be granted under this subsection. The regulations shall, at a minimum, specify—

''(i) procedures to be used by the Administrator or a State to grant or deny variances, including requirements for notifying the Administrator and consumers of the public water system that a variance is proposed to be granted (including information regarding the contaminant and variance) and requirements for a public hearing on the variance before the variance is granted;

''(ii) requirements for the installation and proper operation of variance technology that is identified (pursuant to section 1412(b)(15)) for small systems and the financial and technical capability to operate the treatment system, including operator training and certification;

''(iii) eligibility criteria for a variance for each national primary drinking water regulation, including requirements for the quality of the source water (pursuant to section 1412(b)(15)(A)); and

''(iv) information requirements for variance applications.

''(B) AFFORDABILITY CRITERIA.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, the Administrator, in consultation with the States and the Rural Utilities Service of the Department of Agriculture, shall publish information to assist the States in developing affordability criteria. The affordability criteria shall be reviewed by the States not less often than every 5 years to determine if changes are needed to the criteria.

''(8) REVIEW BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall periodically review the program of each State that has primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems under section 1413 with respect to variances to determine whether the variances granted by the State comply with the requirements of this subsection. With respect to affordability, the determination of the Administrator shall be limited to whether the variances granted by the State comply with the affordability criteria developed by the State.

''(B) NOTICE AND PUBLICATION.—If the Administrator determines that variances granted by a State are not in compliance with affordability criteria developed by the State and the requirements of this subsection, the Administrator shall notify the State in writing of the deficiencies and make public the determination.

''(9) APPROVAL OF VARIANCES.—A State proposing to grant a variance under this subsection to a public water system serving more than 3,300 and fewer than 10,000 persons shall submit the variance to the Administrator for review and approval prior to the issuance of the variance. The Administrator shall approve the variance if it meets each of the requirements of this subsection. The Administrator shall approve or disapprove the variance within 90 days. If the Administrator disapproves a variance under this paragraph, the Administrator shall notify the State in writing of the reasons for disapproval and the variance may be resubmitted with modifications to address the objections stated by the Administrator.

''(10) OBJECTIONS TO VARIANCES.—

''(A) BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—The Administrator may review and object to any variance proposed to be granted by a State, if the objection is communicated to the State not later than 90 days after the State proposes to grant the variance. If the Administrator objects to the granting of a variance, the Administrator shall notify the State in writing of each basis for the objection and propose a modification to the variance to resolve the concerns of the Administrator. The State shall make the recommended

modification or respond in writing to each objection. If the State issues the variance without resolving the concerns of the Administrator, the Administrator may overturn the State decision to grant the variance if the Administrator determines that the State decision does not comply with this subsection.

''(B) PETITION BY CONSUMERS.—Not later than 30 days after a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems under section 1413 proposes to grant a variance for a public water system, any person served by the system may petition the Administrator to object to the granting of a variance. The Administrator shall respond to the petition and determine whether to object to the variance under subparagraph (A) not later than 60 days after the receipt of the petition.

''(C) TIMING.—No variance shall be granted by a State until the later of the following:

''(i) 90 days after the State proposes to grant a variance.

''(ii) If the Administrator objects to the variance, the date on which the State makes the recommended modifications or responds in writing to each objection.''.

SEC. 117. EXEMPTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1416 (42 U.S.C. 300g–5) is amended as follows:

(1) In subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by inserting after ''(which may include economic factors'' the following: '', including qualification of the public water system as a system serving a disadvantaged community pursuant to section 1452(d)''; and

(B) by inserting after ''treatment technique requirement,'' the following: ''or to implement measures to develop an alternative source of water supply,''.

(2) In subsection (a), by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (2), striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting ''; and'' and by adding the following at the end thereof:

''(4) management or restructuring changes (or both) cannot reasonably be made that will result in compliance with this title or, if compliance cannot be achieved, improve the quality of the drinking water.''.

(3) In subsection (b)(1)(A)—

(A) by striking ''(including increments of progress)'' and inserting ''(including increments of progress or measures to develop an alternative source of water supply)''; and

(B) by striking ''requirement and treatment'' and inserting ''requirement or treatment''.

(4) In subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by striking ''(except as provided in subparagraph (B))'' in subparagraph (A) and all that follows through ''3 years after the date of the issuance of the exemption if'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting the following: ''not later than 3 years after the otherwise applicable compliance date established in section 1412(b)(10).

''(B) No exemption shall be granted unless'';

(B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking ''within the period of such exemption'' and inserting ''prior to the date established pursuant to section 1412(b)(10)'';

(C) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by inserting after ''such financial assistance'' the following: ''or assistance pursuant to section 1452, or any other Federal or State program is reasonably likely to be available within the period of the exemption'';

(D) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking ''500 service connections'' and inserting ''a population of 3,300''; and

(ii) by inserting '', but not to exceed a total of 6 years,'' after ''for one or more additional 2-year periods''; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) LIMITATION.—A public water system may not receive an exemption under this section if the system was granted a variance under section 1415(e).''.

(b) LIMITED ADDITIONAL COMPLIANCE PERIOD.—(1) The State of New York, on a case-by-case basis and after notice and an opportunity of at least 60 days for public comment, may allow an additional period for compliance with the Surface Water Treatment Rule established pursuant to section 1412(b)(7)(C) of the Safe Drinking Water Act in the case of unfiltered systems in Essex, Columbia, Greene, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Saratoga, Washington, and Warren Counties serving a population of less than 5,000, which meet appropriate disinfection requirements and have adequate watershed protections, so long as the State determines that the public health will be protected during the duration of the additional compliance period and the system agrees to implement appropriate control measures as determined by the State.

(2) The additional compliance period referred to in paragraph (1) shall expire on the earlier of the date 3 years after the date on which the Administrator identifies appropriate control technology for the Surface Water Treatment Rule for public water systems in the category that includes such system pursuant to section 1412(b)(4)(E) of the Safe Drinking Water Act or 5 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996.

SEC. 118. LEAD PLUMBING AND PIPES.

Section 1417 (42 U.S.C. 300g–6) is amended as follows:

(1) In subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) PROHIBITIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—No person may use any pipe, any pipe or plumbing fitting or fixture, any solder, or any flux, after June 19, 1986, in the installation or repair of—

''(i) any public water system; or

''(ii) any plumbing in a residential or nonresidential facility providing water for human consumption,

that is not lead free (within the meaning of subsection (d)).

''(B) LEADED JOINTS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to leaded joints necessary for the repair of cast iron pipes.''.

(2) In subsection (a)(2)(A), by inserting ''owner or operator of a'' after ''Each''.

(3) By adding at the end of subsection (a) the following:

''(3) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—Effective 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, it shall be unlawful—

''(A) for any person to introduce into commerce any pipe, or any pipe or plumbing fitting or fixture, that is not lead free, except for a pipe that is used in manufacturing or industrial processing;

''(B) for any person engaged in the business of selling plumbing supplies, except manufacturers, to sell solder or flux that is not lead free; or

''(C) for any person to introduce into commerce any solder or flux that is not lead free unless the solder or flux bears a prominent label stating that it is illegal to use the solder or flux in the installation or repair of any plumbing providing water for human consumption.''.

(4) In subsection (d)—

(A) by striking ''lead, and'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''lead;'';

(B) by striking ''lead.'' in paragraph (2) and inserting ''lead; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) when used with respect to plumbing fittings and fixtures, refers to plumbing fittings and fixtures in compliance with standards established in accordance with subsection (e).''.

(5) By adding at the end the following:

''(e) PLUMBING FITTINGS AND FIXTURES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide accurate and timely technical information and assistance to qualified third-party certifiers in the development of voluntary standards and testing protocols for the leaching of lead from new plumbing fittings and fixtures that are intended by the manufacturer to dispense water for human ingestion.

''(2) STANDARDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a voluntary standard for the leaching of lead is not established by the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall, not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, promulgate regulations setting a health-effects-based performance standard establishing maximum leaching levels from new plumbing fittings and fixtures that are intended by the manufacturer to dispense water for human ingestion. The standard shall become effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of promulgation of the standard.

''(B) ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENT.—If regulations are required to be promulgated under subparagraph (A) and have not been promulgated by the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, no person may import, manufacture, process, or distribute in commerce a new plumbing fitting or fixture, intended by the manufacturer to dispense water for human ingestion, that contains more than 4 percent lead by dry weight.''.

SEC. 119. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT.

Part B (42 U.S.C. 300g et seq.) is amended by adding after section 1419 the following:

''CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

''SEC. 1420. (a) STATE AUTHORITY FOR NEW SYSTEMS.—A State shall receive only 80 percent of the allotment that the State is otherwise entitled to receive under section 1452 (relating to State loan funds) unless the State has obtained the legal authority or other means to ensure that all new community water systems and new nontransient, noncommunity water systems commencing operation after October 1, 1999, demonstrate technical, managerial, and financial capacity with respect to each national primary drinking water regulation in effect, or likely to be in effect, on the date of commencement of operations.

''(b) SYSTEMS IN SIGNIFICANT NONCOMPLIANCE.—

''(1) LIST.—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, each State shall prepare, periodically update, and submit to the Administrator a list of community water systems and nontransient, noncommunity water systems that have a history of significant noncompliance with this title (as defined in guidelines issued prior to the date of enactment of this section or any revisions of the guidelines that have been made in consultation with the States) and, to the extent practicable, the reasons for noncompliance.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section and as part of the capacity development strategy of the State, each State shall report to the Administrator on the success of enforcement mechanisms and initial capacity development efforts in assisting the public water systems listed under paragraph (1) to improve technical, managerial, and financial capacity.

''(3) WITHHOLDING.—The list and report under this subsection shall be considered part of the capacity development strategy of the State required under subsection (c) of this section for purposes of the withholding requirements of section 1452(a)(1)(G)(i) (relating to State loan funds).

''(c) CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning 4 years after the date of enactment of this section, a State shall receive only—

''(A) 90 percent in fiscal year 2001;

''(B) 85 percent in fiscal year 2002; and

''(C) 80 percent in each subsequent fiscal year, of the allotment that the State is otherwise entitled to receive under section 1452 (relating to State loan funds), unless the State is developing and implementing a strategy to assist public water systems in acquiring and maintaining technical, managerial, and financial capacity.

''(2) CONTENT.—In preparing the capacity development strategy, the State shall consider, solicit public comment on, and include as appropriate—

''(A) the methods or criteria that the State will use to identify and prioritize the public water systems most in need of improving technical, managerial, and financial capacity;

''(B) a description of the institutional, regulatory, financial, tax, or legal factors at the Federal, State, or local level that encourage or impair capacity development;

''(C) a description of how the State will use the authorities and resources of this title or other means to—

''(i) assist public water systems in complying with national primary drinking water regulations;

''(ii) encourage the development of partnerships between public water systems to enhance the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of the systems; and

''(iii) assist public water systems in the training and certification of operators;

''(D) a description of how the State will establish a baseline and measure improvements in capacity with respect to national primary drinking water regulations and State drinking water law; and

''(E) an identification of the persons that have an interest in and are involved in the development and implementation of the capacity development strategy (including all appropriate agencies of Federal, State, and local governments, private and nonprofit public water systems, and public water system customers).

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which a State first adopts a capacity development strategy under this subsection, and every 3 years thereafter, the head of the State agency that has primary responsibility to carry out this title in the State shall submit to the Governor a report that shall also be available to the public on the efficacy of the strategy and progress made toward improving the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of public water systems in the State.

''(4) REVIEW.—The decisions of the State under this section regarding any particular public water system are not subject to review by the Administrator and may not serve as the basis for withholding funds under section 1452.

''(d) FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall support the States in developing capacity development strategies.

''(2) INFORMATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall—

''(i) conduct a review of State capacity development efforts in existence on the date of enactment of this section and publish information to assist States and public water systems in capacity development efforts; and

''(ii) initiate a partnership with States, public water systems, and the public to develop information for States on recommended operator certification requirements.

''(B) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION.—The Administrator shall publish the information developed through the partnership under subparagraph (A)(ii) not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section.

''(3) PROMULGATION OF DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS.—In promulgating a national primary drinking water regulation, the Administrator shall include an analysis of the likely effect of compliance with the regulation on the technical, financial, and managerial capacity of public water systems.

''(4) GUIDANCE FOR NEW SYSTEMS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall publish guidance developed in consultation with the States describing legal authorities and other means to ensure that all new community water systems and new nontransient, noncommunity water systems demonstrate technical, managerial, and financial capacity with respect to national primary drinking water regulations.

''(e) VARIANCES AND EXEMPTIONS.—Based on information obtained under subsection (c)(3), the Administrator shall, as appropriate, modify regulations concerning variances and exemptions for small public water systems to ensure flexibility in the use of the variances and exemptions. Nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted, construed, or applied to affect or alter the requirements of section 1415 or 1416.

''(f) SMALL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE CENTERS.—

''(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Administrator is authorized to make grants to institutions of higher learning to establish and operate small public water system technology assistance centers in the United States.

''(2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CENTERS.—The responsibilities of the small public water system technology assistance centers established under this subsection shall include the conduct of training and technical assistance relating to the information, performance, and technical needs of small public water systems or public water systems that serve Indian Tribes.

''(3) APPLICATIONS.—Any institution of higher learning interested in receiving a grant under this subsection shall submit to the Administrator an application in such form and containing such information as the Administrator may require by regulation.

''(4) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Administrator shall select recipients of grants under this subsection on the basis of the following criteria:

''(A) The small public water system technology assistance center shall be located in a State that is representative of the needs of the region in which the State is located for addressing the drinking water needs of small and rural communities or Indian Tribes.

''(B) The grant recipient shall be located in a region that has experienced problems, or may reasonably be foreseen to experience problems, with small and rural public water systems.

''(C) The grant recipient shall have access to expertise in small public water system technology management.

''(D) The grant recipient shall have the capability to disseminate the results of small public water system technology and training programs.

''(E) The projects that the grant recipient proposes to carry out under the grant are necessary and appropriate.

''(F) The grant recipient has regional support beyond the host institution.

''(5) CONSORTIA OF STATES.—At least 2 of the grants under this subsection shall be made to consortia of States with low population densities.

''(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to make grants under this subsection $2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 1999, and $5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2000 through 2003.

''(g) ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE CENTERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide initial funding for one or more university-based environmental finance centers for activities that provide technical assistance to State and local officials in developing the capacity of public water systems. Any such funds shall be used only for activities that are directly related to this title.

''(2) NATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Administrator shall establish a national public water system capacity development clearinghouse to receive and disseminate information with respect to developing, improving, and maintaining financial and managerial capacity at public water systems. The Administrator shall ensure that the clearinghouse does not duplicate other federally supported clearinghouse activities.

''(3) CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNIQUES.—The Administrator may request an environmental finance center funded under paragraph (1) to develop and test managerial, financial, and institutional techniques for capacity development. The techniques may include capacity assessment methodologies, manual and computer based public water system rate models and capital planning models, public water system consolidation procedures, and regionalization models.

''(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $1,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2003.

''(5) LIMITATION.—No portion of any funds made available under this subsection may be used for lobbying expenses.''.

SEC. 120. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR CERTAIN GROUND WATER PROGRAMS.

(a) CRITICAL AQUIFER PROTECTION.—Section 1427 (42 U.S.C. 300h–6) is amended as follows:

(1) Subsection (b)(1) is amended by striking ''not later than 24 months after the enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986''.

(2) The table in subsection (m) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''1992–2003 ..... 15,000,000.''.

(b) WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS.—The table in section 1428(k) (42 U.S.C. 300h–7(k)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''1992–2003 ..... 30,000,000.''.

(c) UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL GRANT.—The table in section 1443(b)(5) (42 U.S.C. 300j–2(b)(5)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''1992–2003 ..... 15,000,000.''.

SEC. 121. AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 1442.

Section 1442 (42 U.S.C. 300j–1) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) of subsection (b) as paragraph (3) of subsection (d) and moving such paragraph to appear after paragraph (2) of subsection (d);

(2) by striking subsection (b) (as so amended);

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (B) of subsection (a)(2) as subsection (b) and moving such subsection to appear after subsection (a);

(4) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2) (as so amended) and inserting the following:

''(2) INFORMATION AND RESEARCH FACILITIES.—In carrying out this title, the Administrator is authorized to—

''(A) collect and make available information pertaining to research, investigations, and demonstrations with respect to providing a dependably safe supply of drinking water, together with appropriate recommendations in connection with the information; and

''(B) make available research facilities of the Agency to appropriate public authorities, institutions, and individuals engaged in studies and research relating to this title.'';

(B) by striking paragraph (3); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (11) as paragraph (3) and moving such paragraph to appear before paragraph (4).

SEC. 122. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 1442(e) (42 U.S.C. 300j–1(e)) is amended to read as follows:

''(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator may provide technical assistance to small public water systems to enable such systems to achieve and maintain compliance with applicable national primary drinking water regulations. Such assistance may include circuit-rider and multi-State regional technical assistance programs, training, and preliminary engineering evaluations. The Administrator shall ensure that technical assistance pursuant to this subsection is available in each State. Each nonprofit organization receiving assistance under this subsection shall consult with the State in which the assistance is to be expended or otherwise made available before using assistance to undertake activities to carry out this subsection. There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to be used for such technical assistance $15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2003. No portion of any State loan

fund established under section 1452 (relating to State loan funds) and no portion of any funds made available under this subsection may be used for lobbying expenses. Of the total amount appropriated under this subsection, 3 percent shall be used for technical assistance to public water systems owned or operated by Indian Tribes.''.

SEC. 123. OPERATOR CERTIFICATION.

Part B (42 U.S.C. 300g et seq.) is amended by adding the following after section 1418:

''OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

''SEC. 1419. (a) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and in cooperation with the States, the Administrator shall publish guidelines in the Federal Register, after notice and opportunity for comment from interested persons, including States and public water systems, specifying minimum standards for certification (and recertification) of the operators of community and nontransient noncommunity public water systems. Such guidelines shall take into account existing State programs, the complexity of the system, and other factors aimed at providing an effective program at reasonable cost to States and public water systems, taking into account the size of the system.

''(b) STATE PROGRAMS.—Beginning 2 years after the date on which the Administrator publishes guidelines under subsection (a), the Administrator shall withhold 20 percent of the funds a State is otherwise entitled to receive under section 1452 unless the State has adopted and is implementing a program for the certification of operators of community and nontransient noncommunity public water systems that meets the requirements of the guidelines published pursuant to subsection (a) or that has been submitted in compliance with subsection (c) and that has not been disapproved.

''(c) EXISTING PROGRAMS.—For any State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems or any other State which has an operator certification program, the guidelines under subsection (a) shall allow the State to enforce such program in lieu of the guidelines under subsection (a) if the State submits the program to the Administrator within 18 months after the publication of the guidelines unless the Administrator determines (within 9 months after the State submits the program to the Administrator) that such program is not substantially equivalent to such guidelines. In making this determination, an existing State program shall be presumed to be substantially equivalent to the guidelines, notwithstanding program differences, based on the size of systems or the quality of source water, providing the State program meets the overall public health objectives of the guidelines. If disapproved, the program may be resubmitted within 6 months after receipt of notice of disapproval.

''(d) EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide reimbursement for the costs of training, including an appropriate per diem for unsalaried operators, and certification for persons operating systems serving 3,300 persons or fewer that are required to undergo training pursuant to this section.

''(2) STATE GRANTS.—The reimbursement shall be provided through grants to States with each State receiving an amount sufficient to cover the reasonable costs for training all such operators in the State, as determined by the Administrator, to the extent required by this section. Grants received by a State pursuant to this paragraph shall first be used to provide reimbursement for training and certification costs of persons operating systems serving 3,300 persons or fewer. If a State has reimbursed all such costs, the State may, after notice to the Administrator, use any remaining funds from the grant for any of the other purposes authorized for grants under section 1452.

''(3) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to provide grants for reimbursement under this section $30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003.

''(4) RESERVATION.—If the appropriation made pursuant to paragraph (3) for any fiscal year is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements of paragraph (1), the Administrator shall, prior to any other allocation or reservation, reserve such sums as necessary from the funds appropriated pursuant to section 1452(m) to provide reimbursement for the training and certification costs mandated by this subsection.''.

SEC. 124. PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION PROGRAM.

Section 1443(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j–2(a)) is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph (7) is amended to read as follows:

''(7) AUTHORIZATION.—For the purpose of making grants under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated $100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003.''.

(2) By adding at the end the following:

''(8) RESERVATION OF FUNDS BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—If the Administrator assumes the primary enforcement responsibility of a State public water system supervision program, the Administrator may reserve from funds made available pursuant to this subsection an amount equal to the amount that would otherwise have been provided to the State pursuant to this subsection. The Administrator shall use the funds reserved pursuant to this paragraph to ensure the full and effective administration of a public water system supervision program in the State.

''(9) STATE LOAN FUNDS.—

''(A) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—For any fiscal year for which the amount made available to the Administrator by appropriations to carry out this subsection is less than the amount that the Administrator determines is necessary to supplement funds made available pursuant to paragraph (8) to ensure the full and effective administration of a public water system supervision program in a State, the Administrator may reserve from the funds made available to the State under section 1452 (relating to State loan funds) an amount that is equal to the amount of the shortfall. This paragraph shall not apply to any State not exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems as of the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996.

''(B) DUTY OF ADMINISTRATOR.—If the Administrator reserves funds from the allocation of a State under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall carry out in the State each of the activities that would be required of the State if the State had primary enforcement authority under section 1413.''.

SEC. 125. MONITORING AND INFORMATION GATHERING.

(a) REVIEW OF EXISTING REQUIREMENTS.—Paragraph (1) of section 1445(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j–4(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1)(A) Every person who is subject to any requirement of this title or who is a grantee, shall establish and maintain such records, make such reports, conduct such monitoring, and provide such information as the Administrator may reasonably require by regulation to assist the Administrator in establishing regulations under this title, in determining whether such person has acted or is acting in compliance with this title, in administering any program of financial assistance under this title, in evaluating the health risks of unregulated contaminants, or in advising the public of such risks. In requiring a public water system to monitor under this subsection, the Administrator may take into consideration the system size and the contaminants likely to be found in the system's drinking water.

''(B) Every person who is subject to a national primary drinking water regulation under section 1412 shall provide such information as the Administrator may reasonably require, after consultation with the State in which such person is located if such State has primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems, on a case-by-case basis, to determine whether such person has acted or is acting in compliance with this title.

''(C) Every person who is subject to a national primary drinking water regulation under section 1412 shall provide such information as the Administrator may reasonably require to assist the Administrator in establishing regulations under section 1412 of this title, after consultation with States and suppliers of water. The Administrator may not require under this subparagraph the installation of treatment equipment or process changes, the testing of treatment technology, or the analysis or processing of monitoring samples, except where the Administrator provides the funding for such activities. Before exercising this authority, the Administrator shall first seek to obtain the information by voluntary submission.

''(D) The Administrator shall not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, after consultation with public health experts, representatives of the general public, and officials of State and local governments, review the monitoring requirements for not fewer than 12 contaminants identified by the Administrator, and promulgate any necessary modifications.''.

(b) MONITORING RELIEF.—Part B is amended by adding the following new section after section 1417 (42 U.S.C. 300g–6):

''MONITORING OF CONTAMINANTS

''SEC. 1418. (a) INTERIM MONITORING RELIEF AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems may modify the monitoring requirements for any regulated or unregulated contaminants for which monitoring is required other than microbial contaminants (or indicators thereof), disinfectants and disinfection byproducts or corrosion byproducts for an interim period to provide that any public water system serving 10,000 persons or fewer shall not be required to conduct additional quarterly monitoring during an interim relief period for such contaminants if—

''(A) monitoring, conducted at the beginning of the period for the contaminant concerned and certified to the State by the public water system, fails to detect the presence of the contaminant in the ground or surface water supplying the public water system; and

''(B) the State, considering the hydrogeology of the area and other relevant factors, determines in writing that the contaminant is unlikely to be detected by further monitoring during such period.

''(2) TERMINATION; TIMING OF MONITORING.—The interim relief period referred to in paragraph (1) shall terminate when permanent monitoring relief is adopted and approved for such State, or at the end of 36 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, whichever comes first. In order to serve as a basis for interim relief, the monitoring conducted at the beginning of the period must occur at the time determined by the State to be the time of the public water system's greatest vulnerability to the contaminant concerned in the relevant ground or surface water, taking into account in the case of pesticides the time of application of the pesticide for the source water area and the travel time for the pesticide to reach such waters and taking into account, in the case of other contaminants, seasonality of precipitation and contaminant travel time.

''(b) PERMANENT MONITORING RELIEF AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems under this title and having an approved

source water assessment program may adopt, in accordance with guidance published by the Administrator, tailored alternative monitoring requirements for public water systems in such State (as an alternative to the monitoring requirements for chemical contaminants set forth in the applicable national primary drinking water regulations) where the State concludes that (based on data available at the time of adoption concerning susceptibility, use, occurrence, or wellhead protection, or from the State's drinking water source water assessment program) such alternative monitoring would provide assurance that it complies with the Administrator's guidelines. The State program must be adequate to assure compliance with, and enforcement of, applicable national primary drinking water regulations. Alternative monitoring shall not apply to regulated microbiological contaminants (or indicators thereof), disinfectants and disinfection byproducts, or corrosion byproducts. The preceding sentence is not intended to limit other authority of the Administrator under other provisions of this title to grant monitoring flexibility.

''(2) GUIDELINES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall issue, after notice and comment and at the same time as guidelines are issued for source water assessment under section 1453, guidelines for States to follow in proposing alternative monitoring requirements under paragraph (1) for chemical contaminants. The Administrator shall publish such guidelines in the Federal Register. The guidelines shall assure that the public health will be protected from drinking water contamination. The guidelines shall require that a State alternative monitoring program apply on a contaminant-by-contaminant basis and that, to be eligible for such alternative monitoring program, a public water system must show the State that the contaminant is not present in the drinking water supply or, if present, it is reliably and consistently below the maximum contaminant level.

''(B) DEFINITION.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the phrase 'reliably and consistently below the maximum contaminant level' means that, although contaminants have been detected in a water supply, the State has sufficient knowledge of the contamination source and extent of contamination to predict that the maximum contaminant level will not be exceeded. In determining that a contaminant is reliably and consistently below the maximum contaminant level, States shall consider the quality and completeness of data, the length of time covered and the volatility or stability of monitoring results during that time, and the proximity of such results to the maximum contaminant level. Wide variations in the analytical results, or analytical results close to the maximum contaminant level, shall not be considered to be reliably and consistently below the maximum contaminant level.

''(3) EFFECT OF DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS.—The guidelines issued by the Administrator under paragraph (2) shall require that if, after the monitoring program is in effect and operating, a contaminant covered by the alternative monitoring program is detected at levels at or above the maximum contaminant level or is no longer reliably or consistently below the maximum contaminant level, the public water system must either—

''(A) demonstrate that the contamination source has been removed or that other action has been taken to eliminate the contamination problem; or

''(B) test for the detected contaminant pursuant to the applicable national primary drinking water regulation.

''(4) STATES NOT EXERCISING PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITY.—The Governor of any State not exercising primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 on the date of enactment of this section may submit to the Administrator a request that the Administrator modify the monitoring requirements established by the Administrator and applicable to public water systems in that State. After consultation with the Governor, the Administrator shall modify the requirements for public water systems in that State if the request of the Governor is in accordance with each of the requirements of this subsection that apply to alternative monitoring requirements established by States that have primary enforcement responsibility. A decision by the Administrator to approve a request under this clause shall be for a period of 3 years and may subsequently be extended for periods of 5 years.

''(c) TREATMENT AS NPDWR.—All monitoring relief granted by a State to a public water system for a regulated contaminant under subsection (a) or (b) shall be treated as part of the national primary drinking water regulation for that contaminant.

''(d) OTHER MONITORING RELIEF.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the authority of the States under applicable national primary drinking water regulations to alter monitoring requirements through waivers or other existing authorities. The Administrator shall periodically review and, as appropriate, revise such authorities.''.

(c) UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—Section 1445(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j–4(a)) is amended by striking paragraphs (2) through (8) and inserting the following:

''(2) MONITORING PROGRAM FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall promulgate regulations establishing the criteria for a monitoring program for unregulated contaminants. The regulations shall require monitoring of drinking water supplied by public water systems and shall vary the frequency and schedule for monitoring requirements for systems based on the number of persons served by the system, the source of supply, and the contaminants likely to be found, ensuring that only a representative sample of systems serving 10,000 persons or fewer are required to monitor.

''(B) MONITORING PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—

''(i) INITIAL LIST.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator shall issue a list pursuant to subparagraph (A) of not more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems and to be included in the national drinking water occurrence data base maintained pursuant to subsection (g).

''(ii) GOVERNORS' PETITION.—The Administrator shall include among the list of contaminants for which monitoring is required under this paragraph each contaminant recommended in a petition signed by the Governor of each of 7 or more States, unless the Administrator determines that the action would prevent the listing of other contaminants of a higher public health concern.

''(C) MONITORING PLAN FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM SYSTEMS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Based on the regulations promulgated by the Administrator, each State may develop a representative monitoring plan to assess the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in public water systems that serve a population of 10,000 or fewer in that State. The plan shall require monitoring for systems representative of different sizes, types, and geographic locations in the State.

''(ii) GRANTS FOR SMALL SYSTEM COSTS.—From funds reserved under section 1452(o) or appropriated under subparagraph (H), the Administrator shall pay the reasonable cost of such testing and laboratory analysis as are necessary to carry out monitoring under the plan.

''(D) MONITORING RESULTS.—Each public water system that conducts monitoring of unregulated contaminants pursuant to this paragraph shall provide the results of the monitoring to the primary enforcement authority for the system.

''(E) NOTIFICATION.—Notification of the availability of the results of monitoring programs required under paragraph (2)(A) shall be given to the persons served by the system.

''(F) WAIVER OF MONITORING REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator shall waive the requirement for monitoring for a contaminant under this paragraph in a State, if the State demonstrates that the criteria for listing the contaminant do not apply in that State.

''(G) ANALYTICAL METHODS.—The State may use screening methods approved by the Administrator under subsection (i) in lieu of monitoring for particular contaminants under this paragraph.

''(H) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph $10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2003.''.

(d) SCREENING METHODS.—Section 1445 (42 U.S.C. 300j–4) is amended by adding the following after subsection (h):

''(i) SCREENING METHODS.—The Administrator shall review new analytical methods to screen for regulated contaminants and may approve such methods as are more accurate or cost-effective than established reference methods for use in compliance monitoring.''.

SEC. 126. OCCURRENCE DATA BASE.

Section 1445 (42 U.S.C. 300j–4) is amended by adding the following new subsection after subsection (f):

''(g) OCCURRENCE DATA BASE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, the Administrator shall assemble and maintain a national drinking water contaminant occurrence data base, using information on the occurrence of both regulated and unregulated contaminants in public water systems obtained under subsection (a)(1)(A) or subsection (a)(2) and reliable information from other public and private sources.

''(2) PUBLIC INPUT.—In establishing the occurrence data base, the Administrator shall solicit recommendations from the Science Advisory Board, the States, and other interested parties concerning the development and maintenance of a national drinking water contaminant occurrence data base, including such issues as the structure and design of the data base, data input parameters and requirements, and the use and interpretation of data.

''(3) USE.—The data shall be used by the Administrator in making determinations under section 1412(b)(1) with respect to the occurrence of a contaminant in drinking water at a level of public health concern.

''(4) PUBLIC RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Administrator shall periodically solicit recommendations from the appropriate officials of the National Academy of Sciences and the States, and any person may submit recommendations to the Administrator, with respect to contaminants that should be included in the national drinking water contaminant occurrence data base, including recommendations with respect to additional unregulated contaminants that should be listed under subsection (a)(2). Any recommendation submitted under this clause shall be accompanied by reasonable documentation that—

''(A) the contaminant occurs or is likely to occur in drinking water; and

''(B) the contaminant poses a risk to public health.

''(5) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The information from the data base shall be available to the public in readily accessible form.

''(6) REGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—With respect to each contaminant for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been established, the data base shall include information on the detection of the contaminant at a quantifiable level in public water systems (including

detection of the contaminant at levels not constituting a violation of the maximum contaminant level for the contaminant).

''(7) UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—With respect to contaminants for which a national primary drinking water regulation has not been established, the data base shall include—

''(A) monitoring information collected by public water systems that serve a population of more than 10,000, as required by the Administrator under subsection (a);

''(B) monitoring information collected from a representative sampling of public water systems that serve a population of 10,000 or fewer; and

''(C) other reliable and appropriate monitoring information on the occurrence of the contaminants in public water systems that is available to the Administrator.''.

SEC. 127. DRINKING WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL.

The second sentence of section 1446(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j–6(a)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', of which two such members shall be associated with small, rural public water systems''.

SEC. 128. NEW YORK CITY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM.

Section 1443 (42 U.S.C. 300j–2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) NEW YORK CITY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator is authorized to provide financial assistance to the State of New York for demonstration projects implemented as part of the watershed program for the protection and enhancement of the quality of source waters of the New York City water supply system, including projects that demonstrate, assess, or provide for comprehensive monitoring and surveillance and projects necessary to comply with the criteria for avoiding filtration contained in 40 CFR 141.71. Demonstration projects which shall be eligible for financial assistance shall be certified to the Administrator by the State of New York as satisfying the purposes of this subsection. In certifying projects to the Administrator, the State of New York shall give priority to monitoring projects that have undergone peer review.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date on which the Administrator first provides assistance pursuant to this paragraph, the Governor of the State of New York shall submit a report to the Administrator on the results of projects assisted.

''(3) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—Federal assistance provided under this subsection shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the protection program being carried out for any particular watershed or ground water recharge area.

''(4) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this subsection for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003, $15,000,000 for the purpose of providing assistance to the State of New York to carry out paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 129. FEDERAL AGENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1447 (42 U.S.C. 300j–6) is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Each department, agency, and instrumentality of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Federal Government—

''(1) owning or operating any facility in a wellhead protection area;

''(2) engaged in any activity at such facility resulting, or which may result, in the contamination of water supplies in any such area;

''(3) owning or operating any public water system; or

''(4) engaged in any activity resulting, or which may result in, underground injection which endangers drinking water (within the meaning of section 1421(d)(2)),

shall be subject to, and comply with, all Federal, State, interstate, and local requirements, both substantive and procedural (including any requirement for permits or reporting or any provisions for injunctive relief and such sanctions as may be imposed by a court to enforce such relief), respecting the protection of such wellhead areas, respecting such public water systems, and respecting any underground injection in the same manner and to the same extent as any person is subject to such requirements, including the payment of reasonable service charges. The Federal, State, interstate, and local substantive and procedural requirements referred to in this subsection include, but are not limited to, all administrative orders and all civil and administrative penalties and fines, regardless of whether such penalties or fines are punitive or coercive in nature or are imposed for isolated, intermittent, or continuing violations. The United States hereby expressly waives any immunity otherwise applicable to the United States with respect to any such substantive or procedural requirement (including, but not limited to, any injunctive relief, administrative order or civil or administrative penalty or fine referred to in the preceding sentence, or reasonable service charge). The reasonable service charges referred to in this subsection include, but are not limited to, fees or charges assessed in connection with the processing and issuance of permits, renewal of permits, amendments to permits, review of plans, studies, and other documents, and inspection and monitoring of facilities, as well as any other nondiscriminatory charges that are assessed in connection with a Federal, State, interstate, or local regulatory program respecting the protection of wellhead areas or public water systems or respecting any underground injection. Neither the United States, nor any agent, employee, or officer thereof, shall be immune or exempt from any process or sanction of any State or Federal Court with respect to the enforcement of any such injunctive relief. No agent, employee, or officer of the United States shall be personally liable for any civil penalty under any Federal, State, interstate, or local law concerning the protection of wellhead areas or public water systems or concerning underground injection with respect to any act or omission within the scope of the official duties of the agent, employee, or officer. An agent, employee, or officer of the United States shall be subject to any criminal sanction (including, but not limited to, any fine or imprisonment) under any Federal or State requirement adopted pursuant to this title, but no department, agency, or instrumentality of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Federal Government shall be subject to any such sanction. The President may exempt any facility of any department, agency, or instrumentality in the executive branch from compliance with such a requirement if he determines it to be in the paramount interest of the United States to do so. No such exemption shall be granted due to lack of appropriation unless the President shall have specifically requested such appropriation as a part of the budgetary process and the Congress shall have failed to make available such requested appropriation. Any exemption shall be for a period not in excess of 1 year, but additional exemptions may be granted for periods not to exceed 1 year upon the President's making a new determination. The President shall report each January to the Congress all exemptions from the requirements of this section granted during the preceding calendar year, together with his reason for granting each such exemption.

''(b) ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY ORDERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Administrator finds that a Federal agency has violated an applicable requirement under this title, the Administrator may issue a penalty order assessing a penalty against the Federal agency.

''(2) PENALTIES.—The Administrator may, after notice to the agency, assess a civil penalty against the agency in an amount not to exceed $25,000 per day per violation.

''(3) PROCEDURE.—Before an administrative penalty order issued under this subsection becomes final, the Administrator shall provide the agency an opportunity to confer with the Administrator and shall provide the agency notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record in accordance with chapters 5 and 7 of title 5, United States Code.

''(4) PUBLIC REVIEW.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any interested person may obtain review of an administrative penalty order issued under this subsection. The review may be obtained in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or in the United States District Court for the district in which the violation is alleged to have occurred by the filing of a complaint with the court within the 30-day period beginning on the date the penalty order becomes final. The person filing the complaint shall simultaneously send a copy of the complaint by certified mail to the Administrator and the Attorney General.

''(B) RECORD.—The Administrator shall promptly file in the court a certified copy of the record on which the order was issued.

''(C) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The court shall not set aside or remand the order unless the court finds that there is not substantial evidence in the record, taken as a whole, to support the finding of a violation or that the assessment of the penalty by the Administrator constitutes an abuse of discretion.

''(D) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL PENALTIES.—The court may not impose an additional civil penalty for a violation that is subject to the order unless the court finds that the assessment constitutes an abuse of discretion by the Administrator.''

''(c) LIMITATION ON STATE USE OF FUNDS COLLECTED FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—Unless a State law in effect on the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 or a State constitution requires the funds to be used in a different manner, all funds collected by a State from the Federal Government from penalties and fines imposed for violation of any substantive or procedural requirement referred to in subsection (a) shall be used by the State only for projects designed to improve or protect the environment or to defray the costs of environmental protection or enforcement.''.

(b) CITIZEN ENFORCEMENT.—(1) The first sentence of section 1449(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j–8(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking '', or'' and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) for the collection of a penalty by the United States Government (and associated costs and interest) against any Federal agency that fails, by the date that is 18 months after the effective date of a final order to pay a penalty assessed by the Administrator under section 1429(b), to pay the penalty.''.

(2) Subsection (b) of section 1449 (42 U.S.C. 300j–8(b)) is amended by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting ''; or'' and by adding the following new paragraph after paragraph (2):

''(3) under subsection (a)(3) prior to 60 days after the plaintiff has given notice of such action to the Attorney General and to the Federal agency.''.

(c) WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.—Section 1447 (42 U.S.C. 300j–6) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.—The Secretary of the Army shall not pass the cost of any penalty assessed under this title on to any customer, user, or other purchaser of drinking water from the Washington Aqueduct system, including finished water from the Dalecarlia or McMillan treatment plant.''.

SEC. 130. STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS.

Part E (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding the following new section after section 1451:

''STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS

''SEC. 1452. (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

''(1) GRANTS TO STATES TO ESTABLISH STATE LOAN FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall offer to enter into agreements with eligible States to make capitalization grants, including letters of credit, to the States under this subsection to further the health protection objectives of this title, promote the efficient use of fund resources, and for other purposes as are specified in this title.

''(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND.—To be eligible to receive a capitalization grant under this section, a State shall establish a drinking water treatment revolving loan fund (referred to in this section as a 'State loan fund') and comply with the other requirements of this section. Each grant to a State under this section shall be deposited in the State loan fund established by the State, except as otherwise provided in this section and in other provisions of this title. No funds authorized by other provisions of this title to be used for other purposes specified in this title shall be deposited in any State loan fund.

''(C) EXTENDED PERIOD.—The grant to a State shall be available to the State for obligation during the fiscal year for which the funds are authorized and during the following fiscal year, except that grants made available from funds provided prior to fiscal year 1997 shall be available for obligation during each of the fiscal years 1997 and 1998.

''(D) ALLOTMENT FORMULA.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, funds made available to carry out this section shall be allotted to States that have entered into an agreement pursuant to this section (other than the District of Columbia) in accordance with—

''(i) for each of fiscal years 1995 through 1997, a formula that is the same as the formula used to distribute public water system supervision grant funds under section 1443 in fiscal year 1995, except that the minimum proportionate share established in the formula shall be 1 percent of available funds and the formula shall be adjusted to include a minimum proportionate share for the State of Wyoming and the District of Columbia; and

''(ii) for fiscal year 1998 and each subsequent fiscal year, a formula that allocates to each State the proportional share of the State needs identified in the most recent survey conducted pursuant to subsection (h), except that the minimum proportionate share provided to each State shall be the same as the minimum proportionate share provided under clause (i).

''(E) REALLOTMENT.—The grants not obligated by the last day of the period for which the grants are available shall be reallotted according to the appropriate criteria set forth in subparagraph (D), except that the Administrator may reserve and allocate 10 percent of the remaining amount for financial assistance to Indian Tribes in addition to the amount allotted under subsection (i) and none of the funds reallotted by the Administrator shall be reallotted to any State that has not obligated all sums allotted to the State pursuant to this section during the period in which the sums were available for obligation.

''(F) NONPRIMACY STATES.—The State allotment for a State not exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems shall not be deposited in any such fund but shall be allotted by the Administrator under this subparagraph. Pursuant to section 1443(a)(9)(A) such sums allotted under this subparagraph shall be reserved as needed by the Administrator to exercise primary enforcement responsibility under this title in such State and the remainder shall be reallotted to States exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems for deposit in such funds. Whenever the Administrator makes a final determination pursuant to section 1413(b) that the requirements of section 1413(a) are no longer being met by a State, additional grants for such State under this title shall be immediately terminated by the Administrator. This subparagraph shall not apply to any State not exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems as of the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996.

''(G) OTHER PROGRAMS.—

''(i) NEW SYSTEM CAPACITY.—Beginning in fiscal year 1999, the Administrator shall withhold 20 percent of each capitalization grant made pursuant to this section to a State unless the State has met the requirements of section 1420(a) (relating to capacity development) and shall withhold 10 percent for fiscal year 2001, 15 percent for fiscal year 2002, and 20 percent for fiscal year 2003 if the State has not complied with the provisions of section 1420(c) (relating to capacity development strategies). Not more than a total of 20 percent of the capitalization grants made to a State in any fiscal year may be withheld under the preceding provisions of this clause. All funds withheld by the Administrator pursuant to this clause shall be reallotted by the Administrator on the basis of the same ratio as is applicable to funds allotted under subparagraph (D). None of the funds reallotted by the Administrator pursuant to this paragraph shall be allotted to a State unless the State has met the requirements of section 1420 (relating to capacity development).

''(ii) OPERATOR CERTIFICATION.—The Administrator shall withhold 20 percent of each capitalization grant made pursuant to this section unless the State has met the requirements of 1419 (relating to operator certification). All funds withheld by the Administrator pursuant to this clause shall be reallotted by the Administrator on the basis of the same ratio as applicable to funds allotted under subparagraph (D). None of the funds reallotted by the Administrator pursuant to this paragraph shall be allotted to a State unless the State has met the requirements of section 1419 (relating to operator certification).

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Except as otherwise authorized by this title, amounts deposited in a State loan fund, including loan repayments and interest earned on such amounts, shall be used only for providing loans or loan guarantees, or as a source of reserve and security for leveraged loans, the proceeds of which are deposited in a State loan fund established under paragraph (1), or other financial assistance authorized under this section to community water systems and nonprofit noncommunity water systems, other than systems owned by Federal agencies. Financial assistance under this section may be used by a public water system only for expenditures (not including monitoring, operation, and maintenance expenditures) of a type or category which the Administrator has determined, through guidance, will facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations applicable to the system under section 1412 or otherwise significantly further the health protection objectives of this title. The funds may also be used to provide loans to a system referred to in section 1401(4)(B) for the purpose of providing the treatment described in section 1401(4)(B)(i)(III). The funds shall not be used for the acquisition of real property or interests therein, unless the acquisition is integral to a project authorized by this paragraph and the purchase is from a willing seller. Of the amount credited to any State loan fund established under this section in any fiscal year, 15 percent shall be available solely for providing loan assistance to public water systems which regularly serve fewer than 10,000 persons to the extent such funds can be obligated for eligible projects of public water systems.

''(3) LIMITATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), no assistance under this section shall be provided to a public water system that—

''(i) does not have the technical, managerial, and financial capability to ensure compliance with the requirements of this title; or

''(ii) is in significant noncompliance with any requirement of a national primary drinking water regulation or variance.

''(B) RESTRUCTURING.—A public water system described in subparagraph (A) may receive assistance under this section if—

''(i) the use of the assistance will ensure compliance; and

''(ii) if subparagraph (A)(i) applies to the system, the owner or operator of the system agrees to undertake feasible and appropriate changes in operations (including ownership, management, accounting, rates, maintenance, consolidation, alternative water supply, or other procedures) if the State determines that the measures are necessary to ensure that the system has the technical, managerial, and financial capability to comply with the requirements of this title over the long term.

''(C) REVIEW.—Prior to providing assistance under this section to a public water system that is in significant noncompliance with any requirement of a national primary drinking water regulation or variance, the State shall conduct a review to determine whether subparagraph (A)(i) applies to the system.

''(b) INTENDED USE PLANS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—After providing for public review and comment, each State that has entered into a capitalization agreement pursuant to this section shall annually prepare a plan that identifies the intended uses of the amounts available to the State loan fund of the State.

''(2) CONTENTS.—An intended use plan shall include—

''(A) a list of the projects to be assisted in the first fiscal year that begins after the date of the plan, including a description of the project, the expected terms of financial assistance, and the size of the community served;

''(B) the criteria and methods established for the distribution of funds; and

''(C) a description of the financial status of the State loan fund and the short-term and long-term goals of the State loan fund.

''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An intended use plan shall provide, to the maximum extent practicable, that priority for the use of funds be given to projects that—

''(i) address the most serious risk to human health;

''(ii) are necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this title (including requirements for filtration); and

''(iii) assist systems most in need on a per household basis according to State affordability criteria.

''(B) LIST OF PROJECTS.—Each State shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment, publish and periodically update a list of projects in the State that are eligible for assistance under this section, including the priority assigned to each project and, to the extent known, the expected funding schedule for each project.

''(c) FUND MANAGEMENT.—Each State loan fund under this section shall be established, maintained, and credited with repayments and interest. The fund corpus shall be available in perpetuity for providing financial assistance under this section. To the extent amounts in the fund are not required for current obligation or expenditure, such amounts shall be invested in interest bearing obligations.

''(d) ASSISTANCE FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES.—

''(1) LOAN SUBSIDY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in any case in which the State makes a loan pursuant to subsection (a)(2) to a disadvantaged community or to a community that the State expects to become a disadvantaged community as the result of a proposed project, the State may provide additional subsidization (including forgiveness of principal).

''(2) TOTAL AMOUNT OF SUBSIDIES.—For each fiscal year, the total amount of loan subsidies

made by a State pursuant to paragraph (1) may not exceed 30 percent of the amount of the capitalization grant received by the State for the year.

''(3) DEFINITION OF DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY.—In this subsection, the term 'disadvantaged community' means the service area of a public water system that meets affordability criteria established after public review and comment by the State in which the public water system is located. The Administrator may publish information to assist States in establishing affordability criteria.

''(e) STATE CONTRIBUTION.—Each agreement under subsection (a) shall require that the State deposit in the State loan fund from State moneys an amount equal to at least 20 percent of the total amount of the grant to be made to the State on or before the date on which the grant payment is made to the State, except that a State shall not be required to deposit such amount into the fund prior to the date on which each grant payment is made for fiscal years 1994, 1995, 1996, and 1997 if the State deposits the State contribution amount into the State loan fund prior to September 30, 1999.

''(f) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—Except as otherwise limited by State law, the amounts deposited into a State loan fund under this section may be used only—

''(1) to make loans, on the condition that—

''(A) the interest rate for each loan is less than or equal to the market interest rate, including an interest free loan;

''(B) principal and interest payments on each loan will commence not later than 1 year after completion of the project for which the loan was made, and each loan will be fully amortized not later than 20 years after the completion of the project, except that in the case of a disadvantaged community (as defined in subsection (d)(3)), a State may provide an extended term for a loan, if the extended term—

''(i) terminates not later than the date that is 30 years after the date of project completion; and

''(ii) does not exceed the expected design life of the project;

''(C) the recipient of each loan will establish a dedicated source of revenue (or, in the case of a privately owned system, demonstrate that there is adequate security) for the repayment of the loan; and

''(D) the State loan fund will be credited with all payments of principal and interest on each loan;

''(2) to buy or refinance the debt obligation of a municipality or an intermunicipal or interstate agency within the State at an interest rate that is less than or equal to the market interest rate in any case in which a debt obligation is incurred after July 1, 1993;

''(3) to guarantee, or purchase insurance for, a local obligation (all of the proceeds of which finance a project eligible for assistance under this section) if the guarantee or purchase would improve credit market access or reduce the interest rate applicable to the obligation;

''(4) as a source of revenue or security for the payment of principal and interest on revenue or general obligation bonds issued by the State if the proceeds of the sale of the bonds will be deposited into the State loan fund; and

''(5) to earn interest on the amounts deposited into the State loan fund.

''(g) ADMINISTRATION OF STATE LOAN FUNDS.—

''(1) COMBINED FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), a State may (as a convenience and to avoid unnecessary administrative costs) combine, in accordance with State law, the financial administration of a State loan fund established under this section with the financial administration of any other revolving fund established by the State if otherwise not prohibited by the law under which the State loan fund was established and if the Administrator determines that—

''(A) the grants under this section, together with loan repayments and interest, will be separately accounted for and used solely for the purposes specified in subsection (a); and

''(B) the authority to establish assistance priorities and carry out oversight and related activities (other than financial administration) with respect to assistance remains with the State agency having primary responsibility for administration of the State program under section 1413, after consultation with other appropriate State agencies (as determined by the State): Provided, That in nonprimacy States eligible to receive assistance under this section, the Governor shall determine which State agency will have authority to establish priorities for financial assistance from the State loan fund.

''(2) COST OF ADMINISTERING FUND.—Each State may annually use up to 4 percent of the funds allotted to the State under this section to cover the reasonable costs of administration of the programs under this section, including the recovery of reasonable costs expended to establish a State loan fund which are incurred after the date of enactment of this section, and to provide technical assistance to public water systems within the State. For fiscal year 1995 and each fiscal year thereafter, each State may use up to an additional 10 percent of the funds allotted to the State under this section—

''(A) for public water system supervision programs under section 1443(a);

''(B) to administer or provide technical assistance through source water protection programs;

''(C) to develop and implement a capacity development strategy under section 1420(c); and

''(D) for an operator certification program for purposes of meeting the requirements of section 1419,

if the State matches the expenditures with at least an equal amount of State funds. At least half of the match must be additional to the amount expended by the State for public water supervision in fiscal year 1993. An additional 2 percent of the funds annually allotted to each State under this section may be used by the State to provide technical assistance to public water systems serving 10,000 or fewer persons in the State. Funds utilized under subparagraph (B) shall not be used for enforcement actions.

''(3) GUIDANCE AND REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall publish guidance and promulgate regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, including—

''(A) provisions to ensure that each State commits and expends funds allotted to the State under this section as efficiently as possible in accordance with this title and applicable State laws;

''(B) guidance to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse; and

''(C) guidance to avoid the use of funds made available under this section to finance the expansion of any public water system in anticipation of future population growth.

The guidance and regulations shall also ensure that the States, and public water systems receiving assistance under this section, use accounting, audit, and fiscal procedures that conform to generally accepted accounting standards.

''(4) STATE REPORT.—Each State administering a loan fund and assistance program under this subsection shall publish and submit to the Administrator a report every 2 years on its activities under this section, including the findings of the most recent audit of the fund and the entire State allotment. The Administrator shall periodically audit all State loan funds established by, and all other amounts allotted to, the States pursuant to this section in accordance with procedures established by the Comptroller General.

''(h) NEEDS SURVEY.—The Administrator shall conduct an assessment of water system capital improvement needs of all eligible public water systems in the United States and submit a report to the Congress containing the results of the assessment within 180 days after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and every 4 years thereafter.

''(i) INDIAN TRIBES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—1½ percent of the amounts appropriated annually to carry out this section may be used by the Administrator to make grants to Indian Tribes and Alaska Native villages that have not otherwise received either grants from the Administrator under this section or assistance from State loan funds established under this section. The grants may only be used for expenditures by tribes and villages for public water system expenditures referred to in subsection (a)(2).

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds reserved pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be used to address the most significant threats to public health associated with public water systems that serve Indian Tribes, as determined by the Administrator in consultation with the Director of the Indian Health Service and Indian Tribes.

''(3) ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES.—In the case of a grant for a project under this subsection in an Alaska Native village, the Administrator is also authorized to make grants to the State of Alaska for the benefit of Native villages. An amount not to exceed 4 percent of the grant amount may be used by the State of Alaska for project management.

''(4) NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Director of the Indian Health Service and Indian Tribes, shall, in accordance with a schedule that is consistent with the needs surveys conducted pursuant to subsection (h), prepare surveys and assess the needs of drinking water treatment facilities to serve Indian Tribes, including an evaluation of the public water systems that pose the most significant threats to public health.

''(j) OTHER AREAS.—Of the funds annually available under this section for grants to States, the Administrator shall make allotments in accordance with section 1443(a)(4) for the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Guam. The grants allotted as provided in this subsection may be provided by the Administrator to the governments of such areas, to public water systems in such areas, or to both, to be used for the public water system expenditures referred to in subsection (a)(2). The grants, and grants for the District of Columbia, shall not be deposited in State loan funds. The total allotment of grants under this section for all areas described in this subsection in any fiscal year shall not exceed 0.33 percent of the aggregate amount made available to carry out this section in that fiscal year.

''(k) OTHER AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2), a State may take each of the following actions:

''(A) Provide assistance, only in the form of a loan, to one or more of the following:

''(i) Any public water system described in subsection (a)(2) to acquire land or a conservation easement from a willing seller or grantor, if the purpose of the acquisition is to protect the source water of the system from contamination and to ensure compliance with national primary drinking water regulations.

''(ii) Any community water system to implement local, voluntary source water protection measures to protect source water in areas delineated pursuant to section 1453, in order to facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations applicable to the system under section 1412 or otherwise significantly further the health protection objectives of this title. Funds authorized under this clause may be used to fund only voluntary, incentive-based mechanisms.

''(iii) Any community water system to provide funding in accordance with section 1454(a)(1)(B)(i).

''(B) Provide assistance, including technical and financial assistance, to any public water

system as part of a capacity development strategy developed and implemented in accordance with section 1420(c).

''(C) Make expenditures from the capitalization grant of the State for fiscal years 1996 and 1997 to delineate and assess source water protection areas in accordance with section 1453, except that funds set aside for such expenditure shall be obligated within 4 fiscal years.

''(D) Make expenditures from the fund for the establishment and implementation of wellhead protection programs under section 1428.

''(2) LIMITATION.—For each fiscal year, the total amount of assistance provided and expenditures made by a State under this subsection may not exceed 15 percent of the amount of the capitalization grant received by the State for that year and may not exceed 10 percent of that amount for any one of the following activities:

''(A) To acquire land or conservation easements pursuant to paragraph (1)(A)(i).

''(B) To provide funding to implement voluntary, incentive-based source water quality protection measures pursuant to clauses (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (1)(A).

''(C) To provide assistance through a capacity development strategy pursuant to paragraph (1)(B).

''(D) To make expenditures to delineate or assess source water protection areas pursuant to paragraph (1)(C).

''(E) To make expenditures to establish and implement wellhead protection programs pursuant to paragraph (1)(D).

''(3) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section creates or conveys any new authority to a State, political subdivision of a State, or community water system for any new regulatory measure, or limits any authority of a State, political subdivision of a State or community water system.

''(l) SAVINGS.—The failure or inability of any public water system to receive funds under this section or any other loan or grant program, or any delay in obtaining the funds, shall not alter the obligation of the system to comply in a timely manner with all applicable drinking water standards and requirements of this title.

''(m) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the purposes of this section $599,000,000 for the fiscal year 1994 and $1,000,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1995 through 2003. To the extent amounts authorized to be appropriated under this subsection in any fiscal year are not appropriated in that fiscal year, such amounts are authorized to be appropriated in a subsequent fiscal year (prior to the fiscal year 2004). Such sums shall remain available until expended.

''(n) HEALTH EFFECTS STUDIES.—From funds appropriated pursuant to this section for each fiscal year, the Administrator shall reserve $10,000,000 for health effects studies on drinking water contaminants authorized by the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. In allocating funds made available under this subsection, the Administrator shall give priority to studies concerning the health effects of cryptosporidium (as authorized by section 1458(c)), disinfection byproducts (as authorized by section 1458(c)), and arsenic (as authorized by section 1412(b)(12)(A)), and the implementation of a plan for studies of subpopulations at greater risk of adverse effects (as authorized by section 1458(a)).

''(o) MONITORING FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—From funds appropriated pursuant to this section for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1998, the Administrator shall reserve $2,000,000 to pay the costs of monitoring for unregulated contaminants under section 1445(a)(2)(C).

''(p) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR STATE OF VIRGINIA.—Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section limiting the use of funds deposited in a State loan fund from any State allotment, the State of Virginia may, as a single demonstration and with the approval of the Virginia General Assembly and the Administrator, conduct a program to demonstrate alternative approaches to intergovernmental coordination to assist in the financing of new drinking water facilities in the following rural communities in southwestern Virginia where none exists on the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and where such communities are experiencing economic hardship: Lee County, Wise County, Scott County, Dickenson County, Russell County, Buchanan County, Tazewell County, and the city of Norton, Virginia. The funds allotted to that State and deposited in the State loan fund may be loaned to a regional endowment fund for the purpose set forth in this subsection under a plan to be approved by the Administrator. The plan may include an advisory group that includes representatives of such counties.

''(q) SMALL SYSTEM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator may reserve up to 2 percent of the total funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (m) for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2003 to carry out the provisions of section 1442(e) (relating to technical assistance for small systems), except that the total amount of funds made available for such purpose in any fiscal year through appropriations (as authorized by section 1442(e)) and reservations made pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed the amount authorized by section 1442(e).

''(r) EVALUATION.—The Administrator shall conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the State loan funds through fiscal year 2001. The evaluation shall be submitted to the Congress at the same time as the President submits to the Congress, pursuant to section 1108 of title 31, United States Code, an appropriations request for fiscal year 2003 relating to the budget of the Environmental Protection Agency.''.

SEC. 131. STATE GROUND WATER PROTECTION GRANTS.

Part C (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''STATE GROUND WATER PROTECTION GRANTS

''SEC. 1429. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may make a grant to a State for the development and implementation of a State program to ensure the coordinated and comprehensive protection of ground water resources within the State.

''(b) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall publish guidance that establishes procedures for application for State ground water protection program assistance and that identifies key elements of State ground water protection programs.

''(c) CONDITIONS OF GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall award grants to States that submit an application that is approved by the Administrator. The Administrator shall determine the amount of a grant awarded pursuant to this paragraph on the basis of an assessment of the extent of ground water resources in the State and the likelihood that awarding the grant will result in sustained and reliable protection of ground water quality.

''(2) INNOVATIVE PROGRAM GRANTS.—The Administrator may also award a grant pursuant to this subsection for innovative programs proposed by a State for the prevention of ground water contamination.

''(3) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—The Administrator shall, at a minimum, ensure that, for each fiscal year, not less than 1 percent of funds made available to the Administrator by appropriations to carry out this section are allocated to each State that submits an application that is approved by the Administrator pursuant to this section.

''(4) LIMITATION ON GRANTS.—No grant awarded by the Administrator may be used for a project to remediate ground water contamination.

''(d) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The amount of a grant awarded pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not exceed 50 percent of the eligible costs of carrying out the ground water protection program that is the subject of the grant (as determined by the Administrator) for the 1-year period beginning on the date that the grant is awarded. The State shall pay a State share to cover the costs of the ground water protection program from State funds in an amount that is not less than 50 percent of the cost of conducting the program.

''(e) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, and every 3 years thereafter, the Administrator shall evaluate the State ground water protection programs that are the subject of grants awarded pursuant to this section and report to the Congress on the status of ground water quality in the United States and the effectiveness of State programs for ground water protection.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003.''.

SEC. 132. SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part E (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SOURCE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

''SEC. 1453. (a) SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT.—

''(1) GUIDANCE.—Within 12 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, after notice and comment, the Administrator shall publish guidance for States exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems to carry out directly or through delegation (for the protection and benefit of public water systems and for the support of monitoring flexibility) a source water assessment program within the State's boundaries. Each State adopting modifications to monitoring requirements pursuant to section 1418(b) shall, prior to adopting such modifications, have an approved source water assessment program under this section and shall carry out the program either directly or through delegation.

''(2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—A source water assessment program under this subsection shall—

''(A) delineate the boundaries of the assessment areas in such State from which one or more public water systems in the State receive supplies of drinking water, using all reasonably available hydrogeologic information on the sources of the supply of drinking water in the State and the water flow, recharge, and discharge and any other reliable information as the State deems necessary to adequately determine such areas; and

''(B) identify for contaminants regulated under this title for which monitoring is required under this title (or any unregulated contaminants selected by the State, in its discretion, which the State, for the purposes of this subsection, has determined may present a threat to public health), to the extent practical, the origins within each delineated area of such contaminants to determine the susceptibility of the public water systems in the delineated area to such contaminants.

''(3) APPROVAL, IMPLEMENTATION, AND MONITORING RELIEF.—A State source water assessment program under this subsection shall be submitted to the Administrator within 18 months after the Administrator's guidance is issued under this subsection and shall be deemed approved 9 months after the date of such submittal unless the Administrator disapproves the program as provided in section 1428(c). States shall begin implementation of the program immediately after its approval. The Administrator's approval of a State program under this subsection shall include a timetable, established in consultation with the State, allowing not more

than 2 years for completion after approval of the program. Public water systems seeking monitoring relief in addition to the interim relief provided under section 1418(a) shall be eligible for monitoring relief, consistent with section 1418(b), upon completion of the assessment in the delineated source water assessment area or areas concerned.

''(4) TIMETABLE.—The timetable referred to in paragraph (3) shall take into consideration the availability to the State of funds under section 1452 (relating to State loan funds) for assessments and other relevant factors. The Administrator may extend any timetable included in a State program approved under paragraph (3) to extend the period for completion by an additional 18 months.

''(5) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—The Administrator shall, as soon as practicable, conduct a demonstration project, in consultation with other Federal agencies, to demonstrate the most effective and protective means of assessing and protecting source waters serving large metropolitan areas and located on Federal lands.

''(6) USE OF OTHER PROGRAMS.—To avoid duplication and to encourage efficiency, the program under this section may make use of any of the following:

''(A) Vulnerability assessments, sanitary surveys, and monitoring programs.

''(B) Delineations or assessments of ground water sources under a State wellhead protection program developed pursuant to this section.

''(C) Delineations or assessments of surface or ground water sources under a State pesticide management plan developed pursuant to the Pesticide and Ground Water State Management Plan Regulation (subparts I and J of part 152 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations), promulgated under section 3(d) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136a(d)).

''(D) Delineations or assessments of surface water sources under a State watershed initiative or to satisfy the watershed criterion for determining if filtration is required under the Surface Water Treatment Rule (section 141.70 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations).

''(E) Delineations or assessments of surface or ground water sources under programs or plans pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

''(7) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The State shall make the results of the source water assessments conducted under this subsection available to the public.

''(b) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL.—For provisions relating to program approval and disapproval, see section 1428(c).''.

(b) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF STATE PROGRAMS.—Section 1428 (42 U.S.C. 300h–7) is amended as follows:

(1) Amend the first sentence of subsection (c)(1) to read as follows: ''If, in the judgment of the Administrator, a State program or portion thereof under subsection (a) is not adequate to protect public water systems as required by subsection (a) or a State program under section 1453 or section 1418(b) does not meet the applicable requirements of section 1453 or section 1418(b), the Administrator shall disapprove such program or portion thereof.''.

(2) Add after the second sentence of subsection (c)(1) the following: ''A State program developed pursuant to section 1453 or section 1418(b) shall be deemed to meet the applicable requirements of section 1453 or section 1418(b) unless the Administrator determines within 9 months of the receipt of the program that such program (or portion thereof) does not meet such requirements.''.

(3) In the third sentence of subsection (c)(1) and in subsection (c)(2), strike ''is inadequate'' and insert ''is disapproved''.

(4) In subsection (b), add the following before the period at the end of the first sentence: ''and source water assessment programs under section 1453''.

SEC. 133. SOURCE WATER PETITION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part E (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SOURCE WATER PETITION PROGRAM

''SEC. 1454. (a) PETITION PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—A State may establish a program under which an owner or operator of a community water system in the State, or a municipal or local government or political subdivision of a State, may submit a source water quality protection partnership petition to the State requesting that the State assist in the local development of a voluntary, incentive-based partnership, among the owner, operator, or government and other persons likely to be affected by the recommendations of the partnership, to—

''(i) reduce the presence in drinking water of contaminants that may be addressed by a petition by considering the origins of the contaminants, including to the maximum extent practicable the specific activities that affect the drinking water supply of a community;

''(ii) obtain financial or technical assistance necessary to facilitate establishment of a partnership, or to develop and implement recommendations of a partnership for the protection of source water to assist in the provision of drinking water that complies with national primary drinking water regulations with respect to contaminants addressed by a petition; and

''(iii) develop recommendations regarding voluntary and incentive-based strategies for the long-term protection of the source water of community water systems.

''(B) FUNDING.—Each State may—

''(i) use funds set aside pursuant to section 1452(k)(1)(A)(iii) by the State to carry out a program described in subparagraph (A), including assistance to voluntary local partnerships for the development and implementation of partnership recommendations for the protection of source water such as source water quality assessment, contingency plans, and demonstration projects for partners within a source water area delineated under section 1453(a); and

''(ii) provide assistance in response to a petition submitted under this subsection using funds referred to in subsection (b)(2)(B).

''(2) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of a petition submitted under this subsection shall be to—

''(A) facilitate the local development of voluntary, incentive-based partnerships among owners and operators of community water systems, governments, and other persons in source water areas; and

''(B) obtain assistance from the State in identifying resources which are available to implement the recommendations of the partnerships to address the origins of drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition (including to the maximum extent practicable the specific activities contributing to the presence of the contaminants) that affect the drinking water supply of a community.

''(3) CONTAMINANTS ADDRESSED BY A PETITION.—A petition submitted to a State under this subsection may address only those contaminants—

''(A) that are pathogenic organisms for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been established or is required under section 1412; or

''(B) for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated or proposed and that are detected by adequate monitoring methods in the source water at the intake structure or in any collection, treatment, storage, or distribution facilities by the community water systems at levels—

''(i) above the maximum contaminant level; or

''(ii) that are not reliably and consistently below the maximum contaminant level.

''(4) CONTENTS.—A petition submitted under this subsection shall, at a minimum—

''(A) include a delineation of the source water area in the State that is the subject of the petition;

''(B) identify, to the maximum extent practicable, the origins of the drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition (including to the maximum extent practicable the specific activities contributing to the presence of the contaminants) in the source water area delineated under section 1453;

''(C) identify any deficiencies in information that will impair the development of recommendations by the voluntary local partnership to address drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition;

''(D) specify the efforts made to establish the voluntary local partnership and obtain the participation of—

''(i) the municipal or local government or other political subdivision of the State with jurisdiction over the source water area delineated under section 1453; and

''(ii) each person in the source water area delineated under section 1453—

''(I) who is likely to be affected by recommendations of the voluntary local partnership; and

''(II) whose participation is essential to the success of the partnership;

''(E) outline how the voluntary local partnership has or will, during development and implementation of recommendations of the voluntary local partnership, identify, recognize and take into account any voluntary or other activities already being undertaken by persons in the source water area delineated under section 1453 under Federal or State law to reduce the likelihood that contaminants will occur in drinking water at levels of public health concern; and

''(F) specify the technical, financial, or other assistance that the voluntary local partnership requests of the State to develop the partnership or to implement recommendations of the partnership.

''(b) APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF PETITIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—After providing notice and an opportunity for public comment on a petition submitted under subsection (a), the State shall approve or disapprove the petition, in whole or in part, not later than 120 days after the date of submission of the petition.

''(2) APPROVAL.—The State may approve a petition if the petition meets the requirements established under subsection (a). The notice of approval shall, at a minimum, include for informational purposes—

''(A) an identification of technical, financial, or other assistance that the State will provide to assist in addressing the drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition based on—

''(i) the relative priority of the public health concern identified in the petition with respect to the other water quality needs identified by the State;

''(ii) any necessary coordination that the State will perform of the program established under this section with programs implemented or planned by other States under this section; and

''(iii) funds available (including funds available from a State revolving loan fund established under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.) or section 1452;

''(B) a description of technical or financial assistance pursuant to Federal and State programs that is available to assist in implementing recommendations of the partnership in the petition, including—

''(i) any program established under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.);

''(ii) the program established under section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 1455b);

''(iii) the agricultural water quality protection program established under chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838 et seq.);

''(iv) the sole source aquifer protection program established under section 1427;

''(v) the community wellhead protection program established under section 1428;

''(vi) any pesticide or ground water management plan;

''(vii) any voluntary agricultural resource management plan or voluntary whole farm or whole ranch management plan developed and implemented under a process established by the Secretary of Agriculture; and

''(viii) any abandoned well closure program; and

''(C) a description of activities that will be undertaken to coordinate Federal and State programs to respond to the petition.

''(3) DISAPPROVAL.—If the State disapproves a petition submitted under subsection (a), the State shall notify the entity submitting the petition in writing of the reasons for disapproval. A petition may be resubmitted at any time if—

''(A) new information becomes available;

''(B) conditions affecting the source water that is the subject of the petition change; or

''(C) modifications are made in the type of assistance being requested.

''(c) GRANTS TO SUPPORT STATE PROGRAMS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may make a grant to each State that establishes a program under this section that is approved under paragraph (2). The amount of each grant shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of administering the program for the year in which the grant is available.

''(2) APPROVAL.—In order to receive grant assistance under this subsection, a State shall submit to the Administrator for approval a plan for a source water quality protection partnership program that is consistent with the guidance published under subsection (d). The Administrator shall approve the plan if the plan is consistent with the guidance published under subsection (d).

''(d) GUIDANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator, in consultation with the States, shall publish guidance to assist—

''(A) States in the development of a source water quality protection partnership program; and

''(B) municipal or local governments or political subdivisions of a State and community water systems in the development of source water quality protection partnerships and in the assessment of source water quality.

''(2) CONTENTS OF THE GUIDANCE.—The guidance shall, at a minimum—

''(A) recommend procedures for the approval or disapproval by a State of a petition submitted under subsection (a);

''(B) recommend procedures for the submission of petitions developed under subsection (a);

''(C) recommend criteria for the assessment of source water areas within a State; and

''(D) describe technical or financial assistance pursuant to Federal and State programs that is available to address the contamination of sources of drinking water and to develop and respond to petitions submitted under subsection (a).

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2003. Each State with a plan for a program approved under subsection (b) shall receive an equitable portion of the funds available for any fiscal year.

''(f) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section—

''(1)(A) creates or conveys new authority to a State, political subdivision of a State, or community water system for any new regulatory measure; or

''(B) limits any authority of a State, political subdivision, or community water system; or

''(2) precludes a community water system, municipal or local government, or political subdivision of a government from locally developing and carrying out a voluntary, incentive-based, source water quality protection partnership to address the origins of drinking water contaminants of public health concern.''.

(b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that each State in establishing priorities under section 606(c)(1) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act should give special consideration to projects that are eligible for funding under that Act and have been recommended pursuant to a petition submitted under section 1454 of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

SEC. 134. WATER CONSERVATION PLAN.

Part E (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

''SEC. 1455. (a) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, the Administrator shall publish in the Federal Register guidelines for water conservation plans for public water systems serving fewer than 3,300 persons, public water systems serving between 3,300 and 10,000 persons, and public water systems serving more than 10,000 persons, taking into consideration such factors as water availability and climate.

''(b) LOANS OR GRANTS.—Within 1 year after publication of the guidelines under subsection (a), a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems may require a public water system, as a condition of receiving a loan or grant from a State loan fund under section 1452, to submit with its application for such loan or grant a water conservation plan consistent with such guidelines.''.

SEC. 135. DRINKING WATER ASSISTANCE TO COLONIAS.

Part E (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding the following new section at the end thereof:

''ASSISTANCE TO COLONIAS

''SEC. 1456. (a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

''(1) BORDER STATE.—The term 'border State' means Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas.

''(2) ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.—The term 'eligible community' means a low-income community with economic hardship that—

''(A) is commonly referred to as a colonia;

''(B) is located along the United States-Mexico border (generally in an unincorporated area); and

''(C) lacks a safe drinking water supply or adequate facilities for the provision of safe drinking water for human consumption.

''(b) GRANTS TO ALLEVIATE HEALTH RISKS.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies are authorized to award grants to a border State to provide assistance to eligible communities to facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or otherwise significantly further the health protection objectives of this title.

''(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Each grant awarded pursuant to subsection (b) shall be used to provide assistance to one or more eligible communities with respect to which the residents are subject to a significant health risk (as determined by the Administrator or the head of the Federal agency making the grant) attributable to the lack of access to an adequate and affordable drinking water supply system.

''(d) COST SHARING.—The amount of a grant awarded pursuant to this section shall not exceed 50 percent of the costs of carrying out the project that is the subject of the grant.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 1999.''.

SEC. 136. ESTROGENIC SUBSTANCES SCREENING PROGRAM.

Part E (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''ESTROGENIC SUBSTANCES SCREENING PROGRAM

''SEC. 1457. In addition to the substances referred to in section 408(p)(3)(B) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 346a(p)(3)(B)) the Administrator may provide for testing under the screening program authorized by section 408(p) of such Act, in accordance with the provisions of section 408(p) of such Act, of any other substance that may be found in sources of drinking water if the Administrator determines that a substantial population may be exposed to such substance.''.

SEC. 137. DRINKING WATER STUDIES.

Part E (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding after section 1457 the following:

''DRINKING WATER STUDIES

''SEC. 1458. (a) SUBPOPULATIONS AT GREATER RISK.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall conduct a continuing program of studies to identify groups within the general population that may be at greater risk than the general population of adverse health effects from exposure to contaminants in drinking water. The study shall examine whether and to what degree infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, individuals with a history of serious illness, or other subpopulations that can be identified and characterized are likely to experience elevated health risks, including risks of cancer, from contaminants in drinking water.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this subsection and periodically thereafter as new and significant information becomes available, the Administrator shall report to the Congress on the results of the studies.

''(b) BIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS.—The Administrator shall conduct biomedical studies to—

''(1) understand the mechanisms by which chemical contaminants are absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and eliminated from the human body, so as to develop more accurate physiologically based models of the phenomena;

''(2) understand the effects of contaminants and the mechanisms by which the contaminants cause adverse effects (especially noncancer and infectious effects) and the variations in the effects among humans, especially subpopulations at greater risk of adverse effects, and between test animals and humans; and

''(3) develop new approaches to the study of complex mixtures, such as mixtures found in drinking water, especially to determine the prospects for synergistic or antagonistic interactions that may affect the shape of the dose-response relationship of the individual chemicals and microbes, and to examine noncancer endpoints and infectious diseases, and susceptible individuals and subpopulations.

''(c) STUDIES ON HARMFUL SUBSTANCES IN DRINKING WATER.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT OF STUDIES.—The Administrator shall, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section and after consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Agriculture, and, as appropriate, the heads of other Federal agencies, conduct the studies described in paragraph (2) to support the development and implementation of the most current version of each of the following:

''(A) Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (59 Fed. Reg. 38832 (July 29, 1994)).

''(B) Disinfectant and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (59 Fed. Reg. 38668 (July 29, 1994)).

''(C) Ground Water Disinfection Rule (availability of draft summary announced at (57 Fed. Reg. 33960; July 31, 1992)).

''(2) CONTENTS OF STUDIES.—The studies required by paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum, each of the following:

''(A) Toxicological studies and, if warranted, epidemiological studies to determine what levels of exposure from disinfectants and disinfection byproducts, if any, may be associated with developmental and birth defects and other potential toxic end points.

''(B) Toxicological studies and, if warranted, epidemiological studies to quantify the carcinogenic potential from exposure to disinfection by-products resulting from different disinfectants.

''(C) The development of dose-response curves for pathogens, including cryptosporidium and the Norwalk virus.

''(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $12,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003.

''(d) WATERBORNE DISEASE OCCURRENCE STUDY.—

''(1) SYSTEM.—The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Administrator shall jointly—

''(A) within 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, conduct pilot waterborne disease occurrence studies for at least 5 major United States communities or public water systems; and

''(B) within 5 years after the date of enactment of this section, prepare a report on the findings of the pilot studies, and a national estimate of waterborne disease occurrence.

''(2) TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—The Director and Administrator shall jointly establish a national health care provider training and public education campaign to inform both the professional health care provider community and the general public about waterborne disease and the symptoms that may be caused by infectious agents, including microbial contaminants. In developing such a campaign, they shall seek comment from interested groups and individuals, including scientists, physicians, State and local governments, environmental groups, public water systems, and vulnerable populations.

''(3) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2001, $3,000,000 to carry out this subsection. To the extent funds under this subsection are not fully appropriated, the Administrator may use not more than $2,000,000 of the funds from amounts reserved under section 1452(n) for health effects studies for purposes of this subsection. The Administrator may transfer a portion of such funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for such purposes.''.

TITLE II—DRINKING WATER RESEARCH

SEC. 201. DRINKING WATER RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION.

Other than amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under other titles of this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated such additional sums as may be necessary for drinking water research for fiscal years 1997 through 2003. The annual total of such additional sums authorized to be appropriated under this section shall not exceed $26,593,000.

SEC. 202. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall—

(1) develop a strategic plan for drinking water research activities throughout the Environmental Protection Agency (in this section referred to as the ''Agency'');

(2) integrate that strategic plan into ongoing Agency planning activities; and

(3) review all Agency drinking water research to ensure the research—

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. WATER RETURN FLOWS.

Section 3013 of Public Law 102–486 (42 U.S.C. 13551) is repealed.

SEC. 302. TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at any time after the date 1 year after a State establishes a State loan fund pursuant to section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act but prior to fiscal year 2002, a Governor of the State may—

(1) reserve up to 33 percent of a capitalization grant made pursuant to such section 1452 and add the funds reserved to any funds provided to the State pursuant to section 601 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1381); and

(2) reserve in any year a dollar amount up to the dollar amount that may be reserved under paragraph (1) for that year from capitalization grants made pursuant to section 601 of such Act (33 U.S.C. 1381) and add the reserved funds to any funds provided to the State pursuant to section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit a report to the Congress regarding the implementation of this section, together with the Administrator's recommendations, if any, for modifications or improvement.

(c) STATE MATCH.—Funds reserved pursuant to this section shall not be considered to be a State match of a capitalization grant required pursuant to section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

SEC. 303. GRANTS TO ALASKA TO IMPROVE SANITATION IN RURAL AND NATIVE VILLAGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may make grants to the State of Alaska for the benefit of rural and Native villages in Alaska to pay the Federal share of the cost of—

(1) the development and construction of public water systems and wastewater systems to improve the health and sanitation conditions in the villages; and

(2) training, technical assistance, and educational programs relating to the operation and management of sanitation services in rural and Native villages.

(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of the activities described in subsection (a) shall be 50 percent.

(c) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The State of Alaska may use an amount not to exceed 4 percent of any grant made available under this subsection for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the activities described in subsection (a).

(d) CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE OF ALASKA.—The Administrator shall consult with the State of Alaska on a method of prioritizing the allocation of grants under subsection (a) according to the needs of, and relative health and sanitation conditions in, each eligible village.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated $15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2000 to carry out this section.

SEC. 304. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that appropriations for grants under section 130 (relating to New York City watershed), section 137 (relating to colonias), and section 303 (relating to Alaska Native villages) should not be provided if such appropriations would prevent the adequate capitalization of State revolving loan funds.

SEC. 305. BOTTLED DRINKING WATER STANDARDS.

Section 410 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 349) is amended as follows:

(1) By striking ''Whenever'' and inserting ''(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), whenever''.

(2) By adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(b)(1) Not later than 180 days before the effective date of a national primary drinking water regulation promulgated by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for a contaminant under section 1412 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–1), the Secretary shall promulgate a standard of quality regulation under this subsection for that contaminant in bottled water or make a finding that such a regulation is not necessary to protect the public health because the contaminant is contained in water in public water systems (as defined under section 1401(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 300f(4))) but not in water used for bottled drinking water. The effective date for any such standard of quality regulation shall be the same as the effective date for such national primary drinking water regulation, except for any standard of quality of regulation promulgated by the Secretary before the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 for which (as of such date of enactment) an effective date had not been established. In the case of a standard of quality regulation to which such exception applies, the Secretary shall promulgate monitoring requirements for the contaminants covered by the regulation not later than 2 years after such date of enactment.

''(2) A regulation issued by the Secretary as provided in this subsection shall include any monitoring requirements that the Secretary determines appropriate for bottled water.

''(3) A regulation issued by the Secretary as provided in this subsection shall require the following:

''(A) In the case of contaminants for which a maximum contaminant level is established in a national primary drinking water regulation under section 1412 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–1), the regulation under this subsection shall establish a maximum contaminant level for the contaminant in bottled water which is no less stringent than the maximum contaminant level provided in the national primary drinking water regulation.

''(B) In the case of contaminants for which a treatment technique is established in a national primary drinking water regulation under section 1412 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–1), the regulation under this subsection shall require that bottled water be subject to requirements no less protective of the public health than those applicable to water provided by public water systems using the treatment technique required by the national primary drinking water regulation.

''(4)(A) If the Secretary does not promulgate a regulation under this subsection within the period described in paragraph (1), the national primary drinking water regulation referred to in paragraph (1) shall be considered, as of the date on which the Secretary is required to establish a regulation under paragraph (1), as the regulation applicable under this subsection to bottled water.

''(B) In the case of a national primary drinking water regulation that pursuant to subparagraph (A) is considered to be a standard of quality regulation, the Secretary shall, not later than the applicable date referred to in such subparagraph, publish in the Federal Register a notice—

''(i) specifying the contents of such regulation, including monitoring requirements; and

''(ii) providing that for purposes of this paragraph the effective date for such regulation is the same as the effective date for the regulation for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water Act (or, if the exception under paragraph (1) applies to the regulation, that the effective date for the regulation is not later than 2 years and 180 days after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996).''.

SEC. 306. WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) NON-FEDERAL PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY CUSTOMER.—The terms ''non-Federal public water supply customer'' and ''customer'' mean—

(A) the District of Columbia;

(B) Arlington County, Virginia; and

(C) the city of Falls Church, Virginia.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers.

(3) VALUE TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The term ''value to the Government'' means the net present value of a contract entered into under subsection (e)(2), calculated in accordance with subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 502(5) of

the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 66la(5)), other than section 502(5)(B)(I) of the Act, as though the contract provided for repayment of a direct loan to a customer.

(4) WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.—The term ''Washington Aqueduct'' means the Washington Aqueduct facilities and related facilities owned by the Federal Government as of the date of enactment of this Act, including—

(A) the dams, intake works, conduits, and pump stations that capture and transport raw water from the Potomac River to the Dalecarlia Reservoir;

(B) the infrastructure and appurtenances used to treat water taken from the Potomac River to potable standards; and

(C) related water distribution facilities.

(b) REGIONAL ENTITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Congress encourages and grants consent to the customers to establish a non-Federal public or private entity, or to enter into an agreement with an existing non-Federal public or private entity, to—

(A) receive title to the Washington Aqueduct; and

(B) operate, maintain, and manage the Washington Aqueduct in a manner that adequately represents all interests of its customers.

(2) CONSIDERATION.—If an entity receiving title to the Washington Aqueduct is not composed entirely of non-Federal public water supply customers, the entity shall consider the customers' historical provision of equity for the Aqueduct.

(3) PRIORITY ACCESS.—The customers shall have priority access to any water produced by the Washington Aqueduct.

(4) CONSENT OF THE CONGRESS.—The Congress grants consent to the customers to enter into any interstate agreement or compact required to carry out this section.

(5) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—This section shall not preclude the customers from pursuing any option regarding ownership, operation, maintenance, and management of the Washington Aqueduct.

(c) PROGRESS REPORT AND PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on any progress in achieving the objectives of subsection (b)(1) and shall submit a plan for the transfer of ownership, operation, maintenance, and management of the Washington Aqueduct to a non-Federal public or private entity. Such plan shall include a detailed consideration of any proposal to transfer such ownership, maintenance, or management to a private entity.

(d) TRANSFER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b)(2), the other provisions of this subsection, and any other terms and conditions the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States, the Secretary shall, not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act and with the consent of a majority of the customers and without consideration to the Federal Government, transfer all right, title, and interest of the United States in the Washington Aqueduct, and its real property, facilities, and personalty, to a non-Federal, public or private entity. Approval of such transfer shall not be unreasonably withheld by the Secretary.

(2) ADEQUATE CAPABILITIES.—The Secretary shall transfer ownership of the Washington Aqueduct under paragraph (1) only if the Secretary determines, after opportunity for public input, that the entity to receive ownership of the Aqueduct has the technical, managerial, and financial capability to operate, maintain, and manage the Aqueduct.

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Secretary shall not transfer title under this subsection unless the entity to receive title assumes full responsibility for performing and financing the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, and necessary capital improvements of the Washington Aqueduct so as to ensure the continued operation of the Washington Aqueduct consistent with the Aqueduct's intended purpose of providing an uninterrupted supply of potable water sufficient to meet the current and future needs of the Aqueduct's service area.

(e) BORROWING AUTHORITY.—

(1) BORROWING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the other provisions of this paragraph and paragraph (2), the Secretary is authorized to borrow from the Treasury of the United States such amounts for fiscal years 1997, 1998, and 1999 as are sufficient to cover any obligations that the Army Corps of Engineers is required to incur in carrying out capital improvements during fiscal years 1997, 1998, and 1999 for the Washington Aqueduct to ensure continued operation of the Aqueduct until such time as a transfer of title to the Aqueduct has taken place.

(E) LIMITATION.—The amount borrowed by the Secretary under subparagraph (A) may not exceed $29,000,000 for fiscal year 1997, $24,000,000 for fiscal year 1998, and $22,000,000 for fiscal year 1999.

(C) AGREEMENT.—Amounts borrowed under subparagraph (A) may only be used for capital improvements agreed to by the Army Corps of Engineers and the customers.

(D) TERMS OF BORROWING.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall provide the funds borrowed under subparagraph (A) under such terms and conditions as the Secretary of Treasury determines to be necessary and in the public interest and subject to the contracts required under paragraph (2).

(ii) TERM.—The term of any loan made under subparagraph (A) shall be for a period of not less than 20 years.

(iii) PREPAYMENT.—There shall be no penalty for the prepayment of any amounts borrowed under subparagraph (A).

(2) CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The borrowing authority under paragraph (1)(A) shall be effective only after the Chief of Engineers has entered into contracts with each customer under which the customer commits to repay a pro rata share (based on water purchase) of the principal and interest owed by the Secretary to the Secretary of the Treasury under paragraph (1).

(B) PREPAYMENT.—Any customer may repay, at any time, the pro rata share of the principal and interest then owed by the customer and outstanding, or any portion thereof, without penalty.

(C) RISK OF DEFAULT.—Under each of the contracts, the customer that enters into the contract shall commit to pay any additional amount necessary to fully offset the risk of default on the contract.

(D) OBLIGATIONS.—Each contract under subparagraph (A) shall include such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Treasury may require so that the value to the Government of the contracts entered into under subparagraph (A) is estimated to be equal to the obligations of the Army Corps of Engineers for carrying out capital improvements at the Washington Aqueduct at the time that each series of contracts is entered into.

(E) OTHER CONDITIONS.—Each contract entered into under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) provide that the customer pledges future income only from fees assessed for principal and interest payments required by such contracts and costs to operate and maintain the Washington Aqueduct;

(ii) provide the United States priority in regard to income from fees assessed to operate and maintain the Washington Aqueduct; and

(iii) include other conditions consistent with this section that the Secretary of the Treasury determines to be appropriate.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) BORROWING AUTHORITY.—The Secretary's borrowing authority for making capital improvements at the Washington Aqueduct under paragraph (1) shall not extend beyond fiscal year 1999.

(B) OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Upon expiration of the borrowing authority exercised under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall not obligate funds for making capital improvements at the Washington Aqueduct except funds which are provided in advance by the customers. This limitation does not affect the Secretary's authority to conduct normal operation and maintenance activities, including minor repair and replacement work.

(4) IMPACT ON IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with other Federal agencies, shall transmit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that assesses the impact of the borrowing authority provided under this subsection on the near-term improvement projects in the Washington Aqueduct Improvement Program, work scheduled, and the financial liability to be incurred.

(f) REISSUANCE OF NPDES PERMIT.—Prior to reissuing a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Washington Aqueduct, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall consult with the customers and the Secretary regarding opportunities for more efficient water facility configurations that might be achieved through various possible transfers of the Washington Aqueduct. Such consultation shall include specific consideration of concerns regarding a proposed solids recovery facility, and may include a public hearing.

SEC. 307. WASTEWATER ASSISTANCE TO COLONIAS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

(1) BORDER STATE.—The term ''border State'' means Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas.

(2) ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.—The term ''eligible community'' means a low-income community with economic hardship that—

(A) is commonly referred to as a colonia;

(B) is located along the United States-Mexico border (generally in an unincorporated area); and

(C) lacks basic sanitation facilities such as household plumbing or a proper sewage disposal system.

(3) TREATMENT WORKS.—The term ''treatment works'' has the meaning provided in section 212(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292(2)).

(b) GRANTS FOR WASTEWATER ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies are authorized to award grants to a border State to provide assistance to eligible communities for the planning, design, and construction or improvement of sewers, treatment works, and appropriate connections for wastewater treatment.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Each grant awarded pursuant to subsection (b) shall be used to provide assistance to one or more eligible communities with respect to which the residents are subject to a significant health risk (as determined by the Administrator or the head of the Federal agency making the grant) attributable to the lack of access to an adequate and affordable treatment works for wastewater.

(d) COST SHARING.—The amount of a grant awarded pursuant to this section shall not exceed 50 percent of the costs of carrying out the project that is the subject of the grant.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 1999.

SEC. 308. PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ZEBRA MUSSEL INFESTATION OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 1002(a) of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701(a)) is amended as follows:

(1) By striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (3).

(2) By striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting ''; and''.

(3) By adding at the end the following new paragraph;

''(5) the zebra mussel was discovered on Lake Champlain during 1993 and the opportunity exists to act quickly to establish zebra mussel controls before Lake Champlain is further infested and management costs escalate.''.

(b) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE.—Section 1201(c) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 4721(c)) is amended by inserting '', the Lake Champlain Basin Program,'' after ''Great Lakes Commission''.

TITLE IV—ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATERSHEDS

SEC. 401. NATIONAL PROGRAM.

(a) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may provide technical and financial assistance in the form of grants to States (1) for the construction, rehabilitation, and improvement of water supply systems, and (2) consistent with nonpoint source management programs established under section 319 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, for source water quality protection programs to address pollutants in navigable waters for the purpose of making such waters usable by water supply systems.

(b) LIMITATION.—Not more than 30 percent of the amounts appropriated to carry out this section in a fiscal year may be used for source water quality protection programs described in subsection (a)(2).

(c) CONDITION.—As a condition to receiving assistance under this section, a State shall ensure that such assistance is carried out in the most cost-effective manner, as determined by the State.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) UNCONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003. Such sums shall remain available until expended.

(2) CONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION.—In addition to amounts authorized under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003, provided that such authorization shall be in effect for a fiscal year only if at least 75 percent of the total amount of funds authorized to be appropriated for such fiscal year by section 1452(m) of the Safe Drinking Water Act are appropriated.

(e) ACQUISITION OF LANDS.—Assistance provided with funds made available under this title may be used for the acquisition of lands and other interests in lands; however, nothing in this title authorizes the acquisition of lands or other interests in lands from other than willing sellers.

(f) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of activities for which grants are made under this title shall be 50 percent.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) STATE.—The term ''State'' means a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(2) WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM.—The term ''water supply system'' means a system for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption if such system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals and a draw and fill system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption. Such term does not include a system owned by a Federal agency. Such term includes (A) any collection, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities under control of the operator of such system and used primarily in connection with such system, and (B) any collection or pretreatment facilities not under such control that are used primarily in connection with such system.

TITLE V—CLERICAL AMENDMENTS

SEC. 501. CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) PART B.—Part B (42 U.S.C. 300g et seq.) is amended as follows:

(1) In section 1412(b), move the margins of paragraph (11) 2 ems to the right.

(2) In section 1412(b)(8), strike ''1442(g)'' and insert ''1442(e)''.

(3) In section 1415(a)(1)(A), insert ''the'' before ''time the variance is granted''.

(b) PART C.—Part C (42 U.S.C. 300h et seq.) is amended as follows:

(1) In section 1421(b)(3)(B)(i), strike ''number or States'' and inserting ''number of States''.

(2) In section 1427(k), strike ''this subsection'' and inserting ''this section''.

(c) PART E.—Section 1441(f) (42 U.S.C. 300j(f)) is amended by inserting a period at the end.

(d) SECTION 1465(b).—Section 1465(b) (42 U.S.C. 300j–25(b)) is amended by striking ''as by'' and inserting ''by''.

(e) SHORT TITLE.—Section 1 of Public Law 93–523 (88 Stat. 1600) is amended by inserting ''of 1974'' after ''Act'' the second place it appears and title XIV of the Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting the following immediately before part A:

''SHORT TITLE

''SEC. 1400. This title may be cited as the 'Safe Drinking Water Act'.''.

(f) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO SECTION HEADINGS.—

(1) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1417 (42 U.S.C. 300g–6) are amended to read as follows:

''PROHIBITION ON USE OF LEAD PIPES, SOLDER, AND FLUX

''SEC. 1417. (a)''.

(2) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1426 (42 U.S.C. 300h–5) are amended to read as follows:

''REGULATION OF STATE PROGRAMS

''SEC. 1426. (a)''.

(3) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1427 (42 U.S.C. 300h–6) are amended to read as follows:

''SOLE SOURCE AQUIFER DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

''SEC. 1427. (a)''.

(4) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1428 (42 U.S.C. 300h–7) are amended to read as follows:

''STATE PROGRAMS TO ESTABLISH WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS

''SEC. 1428. (a)''.

(5) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1432 (42 U.S.C. 300i–1) are amended to read as follows:

''TAMPERING WITH PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

''SEC. 1432. (a)''.

(6) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1451 (42 U.S.C. 300j–11) are amended to read as follows:

''INDIAN TRIBES

''SEC. 1451. (a)''.

(7) The section heading and first word of section 1461 (42 U.S.C. 300j–21) are amended to read as follows:

''DEFINITIONS

''SEC. 1461. As''.

(8) The section heading and first word of section 1462 (42 U.S.C. 300j–22) are amended to read as follows:

''RECALL OF DRINKING WATER COOLERS WITH LEAD-LINED TANKS

''SEC. 1462. For''.

(9) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1463 (42 U.S.C. 300j–23) are amended to read as follows:

''DRINKING WATER COOLERS CONTAINING LEAD

''SEC. 1463. (a)''.

(10) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1464 (42 U.S.C. 300j–24) are amended to read as follows:

''LEAD CONTAMINATION IN SCHOOL DRINKING WATER

''SEC. 1464. (a)''.

(11) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1465 (42 U.S.C. 300j–25) are amended to read as follows:

''FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR STATE PROGRAMS REGARDING LEAD CONTAMINATION IN SCHOOL DRINKING WATER

''SEC. 1465. (a)''.

And the House agree to the same.

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of the Senate bill (except for secs. 28(a) and 28(e)) and the House amendment (except for title V), and modifications committed to conference:

TOM BLILEY,
MIKE BILIRAKIS,
MIKE CRAPO,
BRIAN P. BILBRAY,

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of secs. 28(a) and 28(e) of the Senate bill, and modifications committed to conference:

TOM BLILEY,
MIKE BILIRAKIS,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Science, for the consideration of that portion of section 3 that adds a new sec. 1478 and secs. 23, 25(f), and 28(f) of the Senate bill, and that portion of sec. 308 that adds a new sec. 1452(n) and sec. 402 and title VI of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

ROBERT S. WALKER,
DANA ROHRABACHER,
TIM ROEMER,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for the consideration of that portion of sec. 3 that adds a new sec. 1471(c) and secs. 9, 17, 22(d), 25(a), 25(g), 28(a), 28(e), 28(h), and 28(i) of the Senate bill, and title V of the House amendment and modifications committed to conference:

BUD SHUSTER,
SHERWOOD BOEHLERT,
ZACH WAMP,
ROBERT A. BORSKI,
ROBERT MENENDEZ,

Provided, Mr. Blute is appointed in lieu of Mr. Wamp for consideration of title V of the House amendment:

PETER BLUTE,
Managers on the Part of the House.

JOHN H. CHAFEE,
DIRK KEMPTHORNE,
CRAIG THOMAS,
JOHN WARNER,
MAX BAUCUS,
HARRY REID,
FRANK LAUTENBERG,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee on Conference

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill S. 1316, to reauthorize and amend Title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act''), and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon

by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report:

The House amendment to the text of the Senate bill struck all of the Senate bill after the enacting clause and inserted a substitute text.

The Senate recedes from its disagreement to the amendment of the House with an amendment that is a substitute for the Senate bill and the House amendment.

The conference agreement on S. 1316, the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, provides (1) revisions to the procedures, process, and criteria for regulating contaminants in drinking water to protect the public health; (2) special programs to help small public water systems meet the requirements of the Act; (3) provisions to promote cost-effectiveness in new drinking water regulations; (4) increased flexibility for water suppliers where consistent with public health; (5) new programs to promote the proper operation of public water systems; (6) substantial new Federal financial and technical assistance to help water suppliers meet the requirements of the Act and to help States in carrying out programs under the Act; (7) refinements and new programs to improve protection of public health from drinking water contamination; and (8) consumers with information on the source of the water they are drinking and its quality and safety.

Certain matters agreed to in conference are noted below.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

Maximum contaminant level goals (sec. 104(a))

The Senate recedes from its legislative provision and report language (found in Senate Report 104–169, pages 30–33) with respect to maximum contaminant level goals for carcinogens. The House recedes from all its report language on the same subject (House Report 104–632, the first paragraph on page 28). The Conferees agree that the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 make no changes to the provision or legislative history for maximum contaminant level goals.

Disinfectants and disinfection by-products (sec. 104(b))

The conference agreement addresses the application of amended section 1412(b)(5) to the Environmental protection Agency's proposed Stage I and Stage II regulations for disinfectants and disinfection byproducts. Public water systems use disinfectants to kill harmful microbial contaminants that can cause serious illness or even death. However, disinfectants and their resulting byproducts also may pose risks, including potential increases in cancer rates and liver and kidney damage. The regulation of both risks from microbial contaminants and risks from disinfectants and disinfection byproducts presents the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a unique challenge. Nonetheless, controls for cryptosporidium and disinfection byproducts are widely considered to be a pressing and high priority for improving drinking water safety.

In November 1992, EPA convened a negotiated rulemaking to examine both the proper strategy for combating cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants and to consider threats to human health from the use of disinfectants commonly employed to combat microbial contaminants. EPA had determined to use the negotiated rulemaking process because the Agency believed that ''the available occurrence, treatment and health effects data were inadequate to address EPA's concern about the tradeoff between risks from disinfectants and disinfection byproducts and microbial pathogen risk, and wanted all stakeholders to participate in the decision-making on setting proposed standards.'' (59 Fed. Reg. 38670, July 29, 1994).

Representatives from EPA, State and local government, water suppliers, public health organizations and environmental groups, among others, worked for nearly two years to reach agreement on a framework for regulating both microbial contaminants and disinfection byproducts. The framework will result in rules for controlling disinfection byproducts and an Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule to address risks posed from microbial organisms. The package of rules when fully implemented is expected to minimize exposures to harmful microbial contaminants while reducing exposure to disinfection byproducts that present a health risk by optimizing the use of disinfectants and other means of water treatment.

The negotiating committee agreed that a two-step process was necessary to address the microbial and disinfectants and disinfection by-products issues. The July 29, 1994 *Federal Register* notice thus proposes both Stage I and Stage II levels of control. The Stage I provisions set limits for two principal classes of chlorination byproducts, as well as limits for specific byproducts resulting from other disinfection processes, at levels deemed appropriate as a first step standard based on current information. More stringent Stage II controls were also proposed for the two classes of chlorination byproducts but a second round of negotiations is envisioned. In the meantime, EPA is conducting an agreed-upon regime of health effects research and water quality monitoring which will be used both to finalize the disinfection byproduct rule and the Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (as provided for by the parties' agreement) and for the second round of negotiations. ''Based on this information and new data generated through research,'' EPA ''will reevaluate the Stage 2 regulations and repropose, as appropriate, depending on criteria agreed on in a second regulatory negotiation (or similar rule development process)'' (59 Fed. Reg. 38743).

The Conferees acknowledge the delicate balance that was struck by the parties in structuring the settlement of these complicated and difficult issues, and encourages the parties to continue according to the negotiated agreement. The negotiated agreement contains an over-arching set of principles to guide the individual rulemakings which incorporated consideration of various factors. The Conferees intend that all additional negotiations weigh the same factors that guided the development of the proposed rule. Specifically, all further negotiations for the Stage II regulations for the control of disinfection byproducts should follow and be consistent with the considerations that led to an agreement regarding the proposed rule for Stage I.

In order to preserve the progress made, there has been considerable care taken to ensure that the new provisions of this conference agreement not conflict with the parties' agreement nor disrupt the implementation of the regulatory actions. To do otherwise would substantially disrupt, if not destroy, the next round of negotiations and lead to unnecessary delays in protecting public health. For this reason, the conference agreement precludes the use of the new authority in section 1412(b)(6) to establish maximum contaminant levels for the Stage I and Stage II rulemakings for disinfectants or disinfection byproducts or to establish a national primary drinking water maximum contaminant level or treatment technique for cryptosporidium.

The Conferees recognize, however, that the development of this regulatory package has required the negotiators to consider complex issues of risk, costs, affordability, feasible technology, and health benefits. It is the Conferees' view that the proposed rule that has been produced is consistent with the ''risk-risk'' provision set out in new section 1412(b)(5). Therefore, Section 104(b) makes clear that the Administrator may use the authority of section 1412(b)(5) to promulgate Stage I and Stage II rules. However, it is also the Conferees' intent that no provision of Section 1412(b)(5) be interpreted to force an alteration of the negotiated agreement.

Finally, Section 104(b) of the conference agreement provides that for the purpose of promulgating Stage I and Stage II regulations for disinfection and disinfection byproducts, the consideration that the Administrator used in the development of the July 29, 1994 proposal for such regulation are to be considered consistent with section 1412(b)(5). These considerations included risk, cost, affordability, feasible technology, and health benefits. The Conferees intend with this language to ensure that the negotiators and ultimately the Administrator are authorized to consider these factors in the same manner as these considerations were used in developing the Stage I proposed rule.

In the convening process for both the negotiating and technical advisory committees for Stage II of the Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Products rulemaking, the Administrator should consider for inclusion appropriate representatives of all interested parties, including State and local governments, public water systems, public interest groups, public health organizations, and experts on chemical disinfectants, their use and alternative disinfection process and their technologies.

Arsenic (sec. 109)

The Conferees encourage EPA to work with the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWARF) to carry out the study projects authorized by new section 1412(b)(12)(A) if AWWARF contributes matching funds.

Consumer confidence reports (sec. 114(a))

The Administrator may, in regulations, permit the notification requirement of subparagraph (A) to be satisfied by a means other than postal delivery, such as personal delivery or electronic mail, if the Administrator determines that the alternative means will provide equivalent notice to individual customers.

EPA regulations should include a clear statement that all drinking water, including bottled water, contains contaminants, usually at levels below the threshold that would present a health risk to humans. The presence of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the drinking water is unsafe for human consumption. If consumers have any questions regarding the levels of contaminants detected in their drinking water or the safety of their drinking water, they should be directed to contact either their drinking water supplier or EPA at the toll-free hotline number.

Bottled water study (sec. 114(b))

The conference agreement provides that the Administrator of the FDA shall provide a study of the feasibility of appropriate methods, if any, of informing customers of the contents of bottled water. The study is intended to provide information on the feasibility of informing customers concerning the contents of bottled water, and is not intended to prejudge the question of whether such information requirements are necessary.

Exemptions (sec. 117)

Management changes referred to in the conference agreement may include rate increases, accounting changes, the hiring of consultants, the appointment of a technician with expertise in operating such systems, contractual arrangements for a more efficient and capable system for joint operation,

or other reasonable strategies to improve capacity. Restructuring changes referred in the conference agreement may include ownership change, physical consolidation with another system, or other measures to otherwise improve customer base and gain economies of scale.

Capacity development (sec. 119)

The phrase ''legal authority or other means'' is intended to require a State to have the actual authority to ensure that all new community water systems demonstrate the technical, managerial and financial capacity to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act. These could include regulations, training, and bonding requirements.

States are also to adopt and implement a capacity development strategy. This is intended to encourage States to continue to focus resources on capacity development initiatives. States are required to consider, solicit public comment on, and include as deemed appropriate by the State, a number of elements and criteria.

The Conferees do not expect that every State will adopt the same capacity development strategy and do not expect States to include elements in section 142(c) that the States determine are not appropriate. It is not expected that every State will give the same consideration to each of the elements listed in section 1420(c). Rather, the Conferees expect that, as suggested by existing State capacity development programs, State capacity development strategies developed under this section will very according to the unique needs of the State. The Conferees encourage this diversity and indicate that EPA should give deference to a State's determination as to content and manner of implementation of a State plan, so long as the State has solicited and considered public comment on the listed elements and has adopted a strategy that incorporates appropriate provisions.

Operator certification reimbursement (sec. 123)

New subsection 1419(c) requires the Administrator to provide reimbursement for the costs of training, including an appropriate per diem for unsalaried operators, and certification for persons operating systems serving 3,300 persons or fewer that are required to undergo training pursuant to section 1419. The Conferees do not consider the term ''unsalaried operators'' to include the persons who receive compensation at an hourly rate, professional consultants, and employees of circuit-rider programs.

State revolving loan funds (sec. 130)

The administrator is to include, in the guidance for State loan fund programs to avoid use of the funds to finance expansion of any public water system in anticipation of future population growth. The Administrator is not to preclude the use of SRF financing for facilities with the capacity necessary to meet the objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act for the population to be served by the facility over its useful life.

States are allowed to jointly manage the corpus of the new drinking water State loan fund with other revolving loan funds. The requirement that the funds be used solely for purposes that meet the objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act does not preclude bond pooling arrangements, including cross-collateralization, provided that revenues from the bonds are allocated to the purposes of the Safe Drinking Water Act in the same portion as the funds are used as security for the bonds.

Estrogenic substances screening program (sec. 136)

Section 404 of H.R. 3604 as reported out of the House Committee on Commerce formed the basis for section 408(p)(3)(B) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 346a(p)(3) (an estrogenic substances screening program). Section 136 of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 adds to the authority of the Administrator to provide for testing of substances that may be found in sources of drinking water if the Administrator determines that a substantial population may be exposed to such substances. The Conferees agree that the treatment of substances addressed under this section shall be consistent with the Report of the Commerce Committee (House Rep. 104–632, Part I, pp. 55–58).

TITLE II—DRINKING WATER RESEARCH

Clarifications made in conference

The House Committee on Commerce and the House Committee on Science have the following understanding on clarifications made in conference. This understanding has no impact on the operation of law.

In reconciling the text of H.R. 3604, the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, with the text of S. 1316, the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, the Conference Committee agreed to minor word changes, such as from ''research'' to ''study'', and citation changes and deletions, including the deletion of references in the House passed version of section 601. None of these minor changes should be considered to lessen or enhance the House Committee on Science's jurisdictional claim to environmental research involving drinking water issues. None of these minor changes should be considered to lessen or enhance the House Committee on Commerce's jurisdictional claim to biomedical research involving drinking water issues.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Transfer of funds (sec. 302)

The following represents an understanding between the House Committee on Commerce and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. This understanding has no impact on the operation of law.

The House Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which has jurisdiction over the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, agree to share jurisdiction over the free-standing provision in section 302 of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 involving transfer of revolving loan funds. This provision allows for the transfer of funds, under specified terms and conditions, between the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund which is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Commerce Committee and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund which is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

For matters directly amending section 302, the two Committees agree that each should be given equal weight in bill referrals, conference appointments, and other jurisdictional assignments. For instance, a bill to amend section 302 to increase the percentage amount that may be transferred between the two revolving funds would be in the joint jurisdiction of the two Committees. Likewise, a direct or indirect amendment to the provisions of section 302 would be in the committees' joint jurisdiction.

Enactment of this freestanding section does not give the Commerce Committee any jurisdiction over the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, nor does it give the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee any jurisdiction over the Safe Drinking Water Act. Jurisdiction for changes that amend provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or the Safe Drinking Water Act should be determined without regard to section 302. Thus, for example, a bill to change or impose conditions or limitations on the criteria applicable to a State for the receipt or expenditure of revolving funds under the Safe Drinking Water Act or Federal Pollution Control Act would be in the sole jurisdiction of the Committee on Commerce or the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure respectively.

Washington Aqueduct (sec. 306)

The Senate bill authorized the Secretary of the Army acting through the Chief of Engineers to borrow from the Secretary of the Treasury funds necessary to make capital improvements to the Washington Aqueduct. The Washington Aqueduct provides drinking water to the three wholesale customers of the District of Columbia and the Virginia jurisdictions of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. Amounts borrowed from the Treasury are to be repaid by the customers.

The Washington Aqueduct system consists of the Dalecarlia and McMillan water treatment plants located in Washington, D.C. The system was constructed in 1853 and is under the control of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for appropriate management and maintenance.

The conference agreement modifies the Senate provision to authorize for three years the Secretary of the Army to borrow from the Secretary of the Treasury funds to finance capital improvements necessary to assure continued operation of the Washington Aqueduct.

The conference agreement encourages and provides a process for the establishment of a regional entity—or the use of an existing entity—to own, operate, maintain and manage the Washington Aqueduct in a manner that fully represents all interests of the non-Federal public water supply customers. The Secretary of the Army is directed to transfer within the three year period all right, title, and interest in Washington Aqueduct after receiving the consent of a majority of the customers. The Conferees express a strong preference for a consensus among all of the customers prior to any transfer of the Washington Aqueduct under this section.

TITLE IV—ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATERSHEDS

The conference agreement includes the House provision regarding the national grants program for water infrastructure and watershed, with a modification to provide that $25 million per year is conditioned on the appropriation of 75 percent for the amounts authorized per year for the drinking water state loan fund. Provisions on the New York City Watershed and Alaska rural and Native villages are contained in other titles of the conference agreement.

As in the House bill, section 401(a) establishes a national program for technical and financial assistance grants for water supply systems and source water quality protection programs. The Administrator is directed to provide priority consideration to the following:

(1) Drinking water infrastructure projects for areas described in section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (P.L. 102–580);

(2) Construction of an alternative water supply system for the area referred to in section 219(c)(5) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (P.L. 102–580);

(3) Attleboro, Massachusetts, and Worcester, Massachusetts, for ratepayer assistance relating to water infrastructure facilities, in addition to other assistance in the form of low interest loans and negative interest rates;

(4) Buffalo, New York, for construction, rehabilitation, and improvement of water treatment facilities;

(5) Bad Axe, Michigan, for connection of its drinking water system to the municipal system in Port Austin, Michigan;

(6) Georgetown, Illinois, for construction and related activities intended to increase the capacity of the City's water supply reservoir and enhance source water quality protection;

(7) Morgan County, Tennessee, for water line extensions and related infrastructure assistance;

(8) Northwest Iowa, for water infrastructure facilities that are either part of or separate from the proposed Lewis and Clark Rural Water System;

(9) Olney, Illinois for construction of new water tower and Millstone Water District, Harrisburg, Illinois for completion of Phase I of a water line extension project;

(10) Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, acting through the Fairmount Park Commission, for improvement and restoration of aquatic systems at Pennypack Park;

(11) San Bernardino County, California, for water infrastructure assistance related to the Mojave River Pipeline;

(12) Springfield, Illinois, for financial and technical assistance to complete the planning, design, and construction of a water supply reservoir;

(13) Tenino, Washington, for water supply infrastructure, including work related to wells, hydrants, and water lines;

(14) Madison, Ohio, for waterline replacement and booster station needs;

(15) Bridger Valley Joint Board, Wyoming, for the study and construction of needed improvements in the water supply system;

(16) Treasure Valley Hydrologic Project, to study the Treasure Valley aquifer system to develop a better understanding of the regional hydraulic stresses and their impacts on source waters in the Boise Basin;

(17) Beuna Borough, New Jersey, to remediate mercury levels in the water supply and to provide alternative drinking water for residents;

(18) Projects for areas described in section 219(c) (16) and (17) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992;

(19) Berlin, New Hampshire, for a filtration plant and associated facilities;

(20) South Tahoe Public Utility District to replace the export pipeline for reclaimed water;

(21) Projects described in section 307 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992;

(22) Cranston, Rhode Island, for a wastewater regional connector system;

(23) Funding for construction of filtration plants in Connecticut; and

(24) Perth Amboy, New Jersey, to protect the drinking water supply through multimedia programs to remediate pollution in the Runyon Watershed.

TITLE V—CLERICAL AMENDMENTS

The conference agreement makes miscellaneous technical and clerical changes.

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of the Senate bill (except for secs. 28(a) and 28(e)) and the House amendment (except for title V), and modifications committed to conference:

TOM BLILEY,
MIKE BILIRAKIS,
MIKE CRAPO,
BRIAN P. BILBRAY,

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of secs. 28(a) and 28(e) of the Senate bill, and modifications committed to conference:

TOM BLILEY,
MIKE BILIRAKIS,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Science, for the consideration of that portion of section 3 that adds a new sec. 1478 and secs. 23, 25(f), and 28(f) of the Senate bill, and that portion of sec. 308 that adds a new sec. 1452(n) and sec. 402 and title VI of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

ROBERT S. WALKER,
DANA ROHRABACHER,
TIM ROEMER,

As additional conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for the consideration of that portion of sec. 3 that adds a new sec. 1471(c) and secs. 9, 17, 22(d), 25(a), 25(g), 28(a), 28(e), 28(h), and 28(i) of the Senate bill, and title V of the House amendment and modifications committed to conference:

BUD SHUSTER,
SHERWOOD BOEHLERT,
ZACK WAMP,
ROBERT A. BORSKI,
ROBERT MENENDEZ,

Provided, Mr. Blute is appointed in lieu of Mr. Wamp for consideration of title V of the House amendment:

PETER BLUTE,
Managers on the Part of the House.

JOHN H. CHAFEE,
DIRK KEMPTHORNE,
CRAIG THOMAS,
JOHN WARNER,
MAX BAUCUS,
HARRY REID,
FRANK LAUTENBERG,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. COLLINS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KLINK, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. THOMAS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCINTOSH, for 5 minutes, on August 2.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. KELLY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GOSS, for 5 minutes, on August 2.

Mr. ROHRABACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TALENT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, for 5 minutes, on August 2.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. KANJORKSKI.
Mr. LIPINSKI.
Mr. HAMILTON.
Mr. MENENDEZ.
Mr. KLECZKA.
Mr. BONIOR.
Ms. HARMAN.
Mr. CARDIN.
Mr. TORRICELLI.
Mr. CLAY.
Mr. LEVIN.
Mr. WYNN.
Mr. DELLUMS.
Mr. ORTON.
Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts.
Mr. SABO.
Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.
Mr. TOWNS.
Mr. LAFALCE.
Mr. BLUMENAUER.
Mrs. MALONEY.
Mr. BARCIA.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. THOMAS, and to include extraneous matter:)

Mrs. SEASTRAND.
Mr. DAVIS.
Mr. HOKE.
Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
Mr. FIELDS of Texas.
Mr. TORKILDSEN.
Mr. DORNAN.
Mr. GILMAN in two instances.
Mr. FORBES in two instances.
Mr. KOLBE.
Mr. WOLF.
Mr. PORTER.
Mr. CASTLE.
Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
Mr. SHAW.
Mr. GEKAS.
Mr. COBURN.
Mr. COMBEST.
Mr. SOLOMON.
Mrs. MORELLA.
Mr. THOMAS.
Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky.
Mr. CAMPBELL.
Mr. ROHRABACHER.
Mr. TALENT.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GOSS) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. HAYWORTH.
Mr. WALKER.
Mr. MCINNIS.
Ms. ESHOO.
Mr. HAMILTON.
Mr. RICHARDSON.
Mr. FORBES.
Mr. STUPAK.
Mr. LOWEY.
Mr. LAHOOD.
Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1051. An act to provide for the extension of certain hydroelectric projects located in the State of West Virginia.

H.R. 3215. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to repeal the provision relating to Federal employees contracting or trading with Indians.

H.R. 3663. An act to amend the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act to permit the

Council of the District of Columbia to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds with respect to water and sewer facilities, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 166. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the mutual aid agreement between the city of Bristol, Virginia, and the city of Bristol, Tennessee.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills and a joint resolution of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1757. An act to amend the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of rights Act to extend the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 531. An act to authorize a circuit judge who has taken part in an in banc hearing of a case to continue to participate in that case after taking senior status, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 20. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the compact to provide for joint natural resource management and enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to natural resources and boating at the Jennings Randolph Lake Project lying in Garrett County, Maryland and Mineral County, West Virginia, entered into between the States of West Virginia and Maryland.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1051. An act to provide for the extension of certain hydroelectric projects in the State of West Virginia.

H.R. 3663. To amend the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act to permit the Council of the District of Columbia to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds with respect to water and sewer facilities, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until today, August 2, 1996, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4491. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting OMB's estimate of the amount of change in outlays or receipts, as the case may be, in each fiscal year through fiscal year 2002 resulting from passage of H.R. 419 and H.R. 701, pursuant to Public Law 101–508, section 13101(a) (104 Stat. 1388–581); to the Committee on the Budget.

4492. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Pension and Welfare Benefits, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule—Class Exemption To Permit Certain Authorized Transactions Between Plans and Parties in Interest [Application No. D–10031] received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

4493. A letter from the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Revision of the Commission's Rules to Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems [CC Docket No. 94–102] received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4494. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicaid Program; Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control, Progressive Reductions in Federal Financial Participation for fiscal years 1982–1984, Payment for Physician Billing for Clinical Laboratory Services, and Utilization Control of Skilled Nursing Facility Services: Removal of Obsolete Requirements (Health Care Financing Administration) (RIN: 0938–AH31) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4495. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for production of major military equipment with Israel (Transmittal No. DTC–44–96), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

4496. A letter from the Chairman, District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting a letter making recommendations for the purpose of promoting financial responsibility in the District of Columbia government, pursuant to Public Law 104–8, section 207(a) (109 Stat. 133); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

4497. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Biological Warfare Experts Group Meeting: Implementation of Changes to Export Administration Regulations; ECCNs 1C991, 1C61B, 1B71E, and 1C91F (RIN: 0694–AB37) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4498. A letter from the Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, transmitting the Bureau's final rule—Central Inmate Monitoring (CIM) System (RIN: 1120–AA43) received July 31, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4499. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E Airspace; Grants Pass, Oregon (Federal Aviation Administration) [Airspace Docket No. 96–ANM–015], pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4500. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E Airspace; Libby Montana (Federal Aviation Administration) [Airspace Docket No. 96–ANM–013] received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4501. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model DC–9 and DC–9–80 Series Airplanes, and C–9 (Military) Airplanes, Equipped with a Ventral Afr Pressure Bulkhead (Federal Aviation Administration) [Docket No. 95–NM–186–AD; Amendment 39–9704; AD 96–16–04] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transporatation and Infrastructure.

4502. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Saginaw River, MI (U.S. Coast Guard) [CGD09–96–003] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4503. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Special Local Regulations; City of Palm Beach, FL (U.S. Coast Guard) [CGD07–96–045] (RIN: 2115–AE46) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4504. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Regulated Navigation Area: Boston Harbor, Spectacle Island, Boston, MA (U.S. Coast Guard) [CGD1–96–068] (RIN: 2115–AE84) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4505. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Ebey Slough, Marysville, Washington (U.S. Coast Guard) [CGD13–96–002] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4506. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations: Snohomish River, Everett, WA (U.S. Coast Guard) [CGD13–96–001] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4507. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Red River, Louisiana (U.S. Coast Guard) [CGD08–96–025] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4508. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone Regulation; Seafair's U.S. Navy Blue Angels Air Show, Elliot Bay, Seattle, Washington (U.S. Coast Guard) [CGD13–96–015] (RIN: 2115–AA97) received August 1, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4509. A letter from the National Director, Tax Forms and Publications Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—requirements for preparing acceptable substitute information returns to be filed with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and for furnishing recipient statements (Revenue Procedure 96–42) received July 31, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ARCHER: Committee of conference. Conference report on H.R. 3448. A bill to provide tax relief for small businesses, to protect jobs, to create opportunities, to increase the take home pay of workers, and for other purposes (Rept. 104–737). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. GOSS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 502. Resolution waiving points of

order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3103) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance coverage in the group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage, to simplify the administration of health insurance, and for other purposes (Rept. 104–738). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SOLOMON: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 503. Resolution waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3448) to provide tax relief for small businesses, to protect jobs, to create opportunities, to increase the take home pay of workers, to amend the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 relating to the payment of wages to employees who use employer owned vehicles, and to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage rate and to prevent job loss by providing flexibility to employers in complying with minimum wage and overtime requirements under that act (Rept. 104–739). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. WALSH: Committee of conference. Conference report on H.R. 3845. A bill making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes (Rept. 104–740). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BLILEY: Committee of Conference. Conference report on S. 1316. An act to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act, commonly known as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act'', and for other purposes (Rept. 104–741). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 3378. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to extend the demonstration program for direct billing Medicare, Medicaid, and other third party payors (Rept. 104–742 Pt. 1). The Committee on Commerce discharged from further consideration. Referred to the Committee of the White House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MCINNIS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 507. Resolution waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 1316) to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act commonly known as the ''Safe Drinking Water Act'', and for other purposes (Rept. 104–743). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. GOSS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 508. Resolution providing for consideration of a certain motion to suspend the rules (Rept. 104–744). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X the Committee on Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3121 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. WALKER (for himself, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. DAVIS, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BAKER of California, Mrs. SEASTRAND, and Mr. TIAHRT):

H.R. 3936. A bill to encourage the development of a commercial space industry in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself, Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. DELAY, Mrs. FOWLER, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. DORNAN, and Mr. HOSTETTLER):

H.R. 3937. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act with respect to preventing the transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus, commonly known as HIV, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. FILNER (for himself, Mr. MONTGOMERY, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. TEJEDA, Mr. BAESLER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. BROWN of Florida, and Mr. MASCARA):

H.R. 3938. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a Veterans' Employment and Training Bill of Rights, to strengthen preference for veterans in hiring, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. FOX (for himself, Mr. STUMP, Mr. MONTGOMERY, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WELLER, Mr. DAVIS, Mr. BARR, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. FLANAGAN, Mr. LONGLEY, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. FORBES, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. MCHALE, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. DORNAN, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. HANCOCK, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. RIGGS):

H.R. 3939. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to offer a loan guaranted by an adjustable rate mortgage under chapter 37 of such title; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. CASTLE, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. PORTER, Mrs. THURMAN, and Mrs. MORELLA):

H.R. 3940. A bill to provide for a reduction in the rate of teenage pregnancy through the evaluation of public and private prevention programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 3941. A bill to designate the U.S. courthouse located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, NY, as the ''Ted Weiss United States Courthouse''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEY (for himself, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. CREMEANS, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, and Mr. WICKER):

H.R. 3942. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit the geographic reclassification of hospitals for purposes of disproportionate share hospitals for purposes of disproportionate share hospital payment adjustments under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PETRI:

H.R. 3943. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to replace the current earned income credit and the personal exemption for children with a refundable credit for families and a refundable credit for each child, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina:

H.R. 3944. A bill to permit States to enforce certain State requirements for the labeling of bottled spring water; to the Committee on Commerce.

H.R. 3945. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to promote additional sharing of broadcasting tower facilities to reduce the impact on local communities of station towers; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. LAFALCE, and Mr. MOAKLEY):

H.R. 3946. A bill to amend title 28 of the United States Code to provide for a remedy against the United States for claims based upon conduct involving human experimentation, to provide a remedy against the United States with respect to constitutional and human rights violations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TIAHRT (for himself, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. COOLEY, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. TALENT, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. BARR, Mr. DORNAN, and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 3947. A bill to amend the General Education Provisions Act to allow parents access to certain information; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

By Mr. HEFLEY:

H.R. 3948. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for the use of biological monitoring and whole effluent toxicity test in connection with publicly owned treatment works, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FRAZER, Mr. FLAKE, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. WYNN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. OWENS, Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana, Mr. CUMMINGS, Miss. COLLINS of Michigan, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. PASTOR, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JACKSON, Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. SCHROEDER, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. LOFGREN):

H. Con. Res. 206. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the threat to the security of American citizens and the U.S. Government posed by armed militia and other paramilitary groups and organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMAS:

H. Res. 207. Concurrent resolution approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management relations with respect to covered employees, other than employees of the House of Representatives and employees of the Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for

consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMAS:

H. Res. 504. Resolution approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management relations with respect to employing offices and covered employees of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FOX:

H. Res. 505. Resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to take away the power of the Committee on Rules to report rules or orders waiving the germaneness requirement; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mrs. MORELLA:

H. Con. Res. 506. Resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that all parents should be afforded the opportunity to plan ahead for their children's college education through tuition prepayment plans that guarantee college for their offspring at a fixed price; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 1 of rule XXII, private bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

Mr. PETE GEREN of Texas introduced a bill (H.R. 3949) for the relief of Senior Master Sergeant William L. Sullivan, U.S. Air Force; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 163: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 573: Mr. MANTON.

H.R. 820: Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. WILLIAMS, and Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 911: Mr. COMBEST.

H.R. 1406: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 1462: Mr. HEFNER, Mr. TANNER, Mr. KLUG, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. THORNTON, Mr. SPRATT, and Mr. MONTGOMERY.

H.R. 2173: Mr. ZIMMER.

H.R. 2396: Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. ZIMMER, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. MANZULLO.

H.R. 2421: Mr. WALSH.

H.R. 2508: Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 2654: Mr. MILLER of California and Mr. WATT of North Carolina.

H.R. 2701: Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida.

H.R. 2741: Mr. MANZULLO.

H.R. 2757: Mr. CHAMBLISS and Ms. FURSE.

H.R. 2820: Mr. MICA.

H.R. 2822: Mr. SKEEN.

H.R. 2900: Mr. HERGER, Ms. PRYCE, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2962: Mr. QUINN.

H.R. 2964: Mr. SPRATT.

H.R. 3000: Mr. BEREUTER.

H.R. 3079: Mr. OLVER.

H.R. 3117: Mr. BOUCHER.

H.R. 3142: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky.

H.R. 3150: Mr. SPRATT.

H.R. 3206: Mr. FUNDERBURK.

H.R. 3207: Mrs. KELLY.

H.R. 3252: Mr. FOGLIETTA.

H.R. 3409: Ms. MCKINNEY.

H.R. 3447: Ms. FURSE.

H.R. 3477: Mrs. CLAYTON.

H.R. 3480: Mr. BALLENGER.

H.R. 3488: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 3518: Mr. HERGER, Mr. COX, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. MOORHEAD, Mr. FAZIO of California, and Mr. RIGGS.

H.R. 3521: Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida.

H.R. 3560: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 3576: Mr. JACOBS, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. MYERS of Indiana, and Mr. MCINTOSH.

H.R. 3609: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 3630: Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 3647: Mr. PETE GEREN of Texas.

H.R. 3693: Mr. HINCHEY and Mr. FIELDS of Texas.

H.R. 3700: Mr. GOODLATTE and Mr. BOEHNER.

H.R. 3710: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. DANNER, and Mr. POMEROY.

H.R. 3713: Mr. MANTON, Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida.

H.R. 3724: Mr. TORRICELLI.

H.R. 3729: Ms. BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 3747: Mr. FROST and Mr. FLAKE.

H.R. 3748: Mr. STUDDS.

H.R. 3753: Mr. OBERSTAR and Mr. SMITH of Texas.

H.R. 3757: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 3792: Mr. HAYWORTH.

H.R. 3839: Ms. DANNER and Mr. COYNE.

H.R. 3841: Mr. DAVIS.

H.R. 3849: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia and Mr. GILMAN.

H.R. 3872: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. SOLOMON, and Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3905: Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H. Con. Res 200: Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. KIM, Mr. MANTON, Mr. PORTER, and Mr. SAXTON.

H. Res. 266: Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. SCHROEDER, and Mr. ACKERMAN.

H. Res. 484: Mr. WYNN, Ms. FURSE, AND Mr. SPRATT.