

For the foregoing reasons, further expenditure of the agency's investigative resources on the allegations in the petition does not appear to be warranted. Therefore, the petition is denied.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30162 (d); delegations of authority at CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: December 9, 1997.

Kenneth N. Weinstein,

Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance.

[FR Doc. 97-33032 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Notice 97-65

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Notice 97-65, Income Tax Return Preparer Penalties—1997 Federal Income Tax Returns Due Diligence Requirements for Earned Income Credit (EIC).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before February 17, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Income Tax Return Preparer Penalties—1997 Federal Income Tax Returns Due Diligence Requirements for Earned Income Credit (EIC).

OMB Number: 1545-1570.

Notice Number: Notice 97-65.

Abstract: Notice 97-65 sets forth due diligence requirements for tax preparers

on returns involving the earned income tax credit (EIC). The due diligence requirements include soliciting the information necessary to determine a taxpayer's eligibility for the EIC and the amount of the EIC, and the retention of this information.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the notice at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 8 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 160,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: December 10, 1997.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-32962 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[LR-58-83]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, LR-58-83 (T.D. 7959), Related Group Election With Respect to Qualified Investments in Foreign Base Company Shipping Operations (§§ 1.955A-2 and 1.955A-3).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before February 17, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Related Group Election With Respect to Qualified Investments in Foreign Base Company Shipping Operations.

OMB Number: 1545-0755.

Regulation Project Number: LR-58-83.

Abstract: This regulation concerns the election made by a related group of controlled foreign corporations to determine foreign base company shipping income and qualified investments in foreign base company shipping operations on a related group basis. The information required is necessary to assure that the U.S. shareholder correctly reports any shipping income of its controlled foreign corporations which is taxable to that shareholder.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.