

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1607

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts for charitable purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2005

Mr. HERGER (for himself and Mr. POMEROY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts for charitable purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Public Good IRA Roll-
5 over Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TAX-FREE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL RE-
7 TIREMENT ACCOUNTS FOR CHARITABLE
8 PURPOSES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 408 of
10 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to individual

1 retirement accounts) is amended by adding at the end the
2 following new paragraph:

3 “(8) DISTRIBUTIONS FOR CHARITABLE PUR-
4 POSES.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—No amount shall be
6 includible in gross income by reason of a quali-
7 fied charitable distribution.

8 “(B) QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBU-
9 TION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the
10 term ‘qualified charitable distribution’ means
11 any distribution from an individual retirement
12 account—

13 “(i) which is made directly by the
14 trustee—

15 “(I) to an organization described
16 in section 170(c), or

17 “(II) to a split-interest entity,
18 and

19 “(ii) which is made on or after the
20 date that the individual for whose benefit
21 the account is maintained has attained—

22 “(I) in the case of any distribu-
23 tion described in clause (i)(I), age
24 70½, and

1 “(II) in the case of any distribu-
2 tion described in clause (i)(II), age
3 59½.

4 A distribution shall be treated as a qualified
5 charitable distribution only to the extent that
6 the distribution would be includible in gross in-
7 come without regard to subparagraph (A) and,
8 in the case of a distribution to a split-interest
9 entity, only if no person holds an income inter-
10 est in the amounts in the split-interest entity
11 attributable to such distribution other than one
12 or more of the following: the individual for
13 whose benefit such account is maintained, the
14 spouse of such individual, or any organization
15 described in section 170(c).

16 “(C) CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE OTHER-
17 WISE DEDUCTIBLE.—For purposes of this para-
18 graph—

19 “(i) DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS.—A dis-
20 tribution to an organization described in
21 section 170(c) shall be treated as a qual-
22 ified charitable distribution only if a deduc-
23 tion for the entire distribution would be al-
24 lowable under section 170 (determined

1 without regard to subsection (b) thereof
2 and this paragraph).

3 “(ii) SPLIT-INTEREST GIFTS.—A dis-
4 tribution to a split-interest entity shall be
5 treated as a qualified charitable distribu-
6 tion only if a deduction for the entire value
7 of the interest in the distribution for the
8 use of an organization described in section
9 170(c) would be allowable under section
10 170 (determined without regard to sub-
11 section (b) thereof and this paragraph).

12 “(D) APPLICATION OF SECTION 72.—Not-
13 withstanding section 72, in determining the ex-
14 tent to which a distribution is a qualified chari-
15 table distribution, the entire amount of the dis-
16 tribution shall be treated as includible in gross
17 income without regard to subparagraph (A) to
18 the extent that such amount does not exceed
19 the aggregate amount which would be so includ-
20 ible if all amounts were distributed from all in-
21 dividual retirement accounts otherwise taken
22 into account in determining the inclusion on
23 such distribution under section 72. Proper ad-
24 justments shall be made in applying section 72

1 to other distributions in such taxable year and
2 subsequent taxable years.

3 “(E) SPECIAL RULES FOR SPLIT-INTEREST
4 ENTITIES.—

5 “(i) CHARITABLE REMAINDER
6 TRUSTS.—Notwithstanding section 664(b),
7 distributions made from a trust described
8 in subparagraph (G)(i) shall be treated as
9 ordinary income in the hands of the bene-
10 ficiary to whom is paid the annuity de-
11 scribed in section 664(d)(1)(A) or the pay-
12 ment described in section 664(d)(2)(A).

13 “(ii) POOLED INCOME FUNDS.—No
14 amount shall be includible in the gross in-
15 come of a pooled income fund (as defined
16 in subparagraph (G)(ii)) by reason of a
17 qualified charitable distribution to such
18 fund, and all distributions from the fund
19 which are attributable to qualified chari-
20 table distributions shall be treated as ordi-
21 nary income to the beneficiary.

22 “(iii) CHARITABLE GIFT ANNU-
23 ITIES.—Qualified charitable distributions
24 made for a charitable gift annuity shall not

1 be treated as an investment in the con-
2 tract.

3 “(F) DENIAL OF DEDUCTION.—Qualified
4 charitable distributions shall not be taken into
5 account in determining the deduction under sec-
6 tion 170.

7 “(G) SPLIT-INTEREST ENTITY DEFINED.—
8 For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘split-
9 interest entity’ means—

10 “(i) a charitable remainder annuity
11 trust or a charitable remainder unitrust
12 (as such terms are defined in section
13 664(d)) which must be funded exclusively
14 by qualified charitable distributions,

15 “(ii) a pooled income fund (as defined
16 in section 642(c)(5)), but only if the fund
17 accounts separately for amounts attrib-
18 utable to qualified charitable distributions,
19 and

20 “(iii) a charitable gift annuity (as de-
21 fined in section 501(m)(5)).”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
23 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
24 December 31, 2004.

