

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1629

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide penalty free distributions and loans from certain retirement plans for the purchase and refinancing of principal residences.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2009

Mr. McCOTTER (for himself and Mr. MARCHANT) 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 provide penalty free distributions and loans from certain retirement plans for the purchase and refinancing of principal residences.

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 “Helping Americans
5 Keep Their Homes Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF WAIVER OF TAX ON EARLY DIS-**
2 **TRIBUTIONS FROM CERTAIN RETIREMENT**
3 **PLANS FOR PURCHASE OF PRINCIPAL RESI-**
4 **DENCE.**

5 (a) INCREASE IN DOLLAR LIMITATION.—Clause (i)
6 of section 72(t)(8)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of
7 1986 is amended by striking “\$10,000” and inserting
8 “\$15,000”.

9 (b) TEMPORARY WAIVER OF FIRST-TIME HOME-
10 BUYER REQUIREMENT.—Subparagraph (D) of section
11 72(t)(8) of such Code is amended by adding at the end
12 the following new clause:

13 “(iv) TEMPORARY WAIVER OF FIRST-
14 TIME HOMEBUYER REQUIREMENT.—In the
15 case of distributions made before January
16 1, 2011, all individuals shall be treated as
17 first-time homebuyers.”.

18 (c) EXPANSION OF PENALTY WAIVER TO ALL QUALI-
19 FIED RETIREMENT PLANS.—Subparagraph (F) of section
20 72(t)(2) of such Code is amended by striking “from an
21 individual retirement plan” and inserting “from a quali-
22 fied retirement plan (as defined in section 4974(c))”.

23 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
24 this section shall apply to distributions made after the
25 date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 3. LOANS FROM INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT PLANS FOR**
2 **REFINANCING OF A PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 408 of
4 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to tax treat-
5 ment of accounts and annuities) is amended by adding at
6 the end the following new paragraph:

7 “(7) EXCEPTION FOR LOANS FROM INDIVIDUAL
8 RETIREMENT PLANS FOR QUALIFIED PRINCIPAL
9 RESIDENCE REFINANCING.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (2) and
11 (3) of this subsection and section 4975 shall
12 not apply with respect to any qualified principal
13 residence refinancing loan from an individual
14 retirement plan to the individual for whose ben-
15 efit the plan is maintained to the extent that
16 such loan (when added to the outstanding bal-
17 ance of all other such loans) does not exceed
18 \$5,000 reduced by the excess (if any) of—

19 “(i) the highest outstanding balance
20 of such loans during the 1-year period end-
21 ing on the day before the date on which
22 such loan was made, over

23 “(ii) the outstanding balance of such
24 loans on the date on which such loan was
25 made.

“(B) QUALIFIED PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE
REFINANCING LOAN.—For purposes of this
paragraph, the term ‘qualified principal resi-
dence refinancing loan’ means a loan the pro-
ceeds of which are used by the individual for
whose benefit the individual retirement plan is
established to pay costs associated with the refi-
nancing of indebtedness which is secured by the
principal residence (within the meaning of sec-
tion 121) of the taxpayer (including payment of
such indebtedness if such payment is in connec-
tion with the refinancing of the remaining in-
debtedness).

“(C) REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO LOAN
REPAYMENTS.—

“(i) REQUIREMENT THAT LOAN BE
REPAID WITHIN 5 YEARS.—Paragraph (1)
shall not apply to any loan unless such
loan is required, by its terms, to be repaid
within 5 years.

“(ii) REQUIREMENT OF LEVEL AMOR-
TIZATION.—Rules similar to the rules of
section 72(p)(2)(C) shall apply for pur-
poses of this subsection.

1 “(iii) FAILURE TO REPAY TREATED AS
2 DISTRIBUTION.—A qualified principal resi-
3 dence refinancing loan shall not be treated
4 as a distribution from the individual retire-
5 ment plan except that any repayment of a
6 qualified principal residence refinancing
7 loan which is not made on the date that
8 such payment is due shall be treated as a
9 distribution from the individual retirement
10 plan on such date.

11 “(D) TERMINATION.—Subparagraph (A)
12 shall not apply to any loan made after Decem-
13 ber 31, 2010.”.

14 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
15 this section shall apply to loans made after the date of
16 the enactment of this Act.

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