

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 43

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a Federal income tax credit for certain stem cell research expenditures.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 7, 2015

Mr. VITTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a Federal income tax credit for certain stem cell research expenditures.

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 “Ethical Stem Cell Re-
5 search Tax Credit Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. CREDIT FOR ETHICAL STEM CELL RESEARCH.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of sub-
8 chapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of
9 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new
10 section:

1 **“SEC. 45S. ETHICAL STEM CELL RESEARCH.**

2 “(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—For purposes of sec-
 3 tion 38, in the case of an eligible taxpayer, the ethical stem
 4 cell research credit determined under this section for the
 5 taxable year shall be an amount equal to 30 percent of
 6 the qualified stem cell research expenses paid or incurred
 7 by the taxpayer during the taxable year.

8 “(b) ELIGIBLE TAXPAYER.—For purposes of this
 9 section, the term ‘eligible taxpayer’ means any taxpayer
 10 that elects the application of this section for the taxable
 11 year.

12 “(c) QUALIFIED STEM CELL RESEARCH EX-
 13 PENSES.—For purposes of this section—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified stem
 15 cell research expenses’ means expenses which are
 16 paid or incurred by the eligible taxpayer during the
 17 taxable year in carrying on basic and applied re-
 18 search to develop techniques for the isolation, deriva-
 19 tion, production, testing, and human clinical use of
 20 stem cells that may result in improved under-
 21 standing of or treatments for diseases and other ad-
 22 verse health conditions, no part of which may in-
 23 volve—

24 “(A) the creation of a human embryo for
 25 research purposes,

1 “(B) the destruction of or discarding of, or
2 risk of injury to, a human embryo, or

3 “(C) the use of any stem cell, the deriva-
4 tion or provision of which would be inconsistent
5 with subparagraph (A) or (B).

6 “(2) HUMAN EMBRYO.—The term ‘human em-
7 bryo’ means any organism not protected as a human
8 subject under part 46 of title 45, Code of Federal
9 Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enact-
10 ment of this section) that is derived by fertilization,
11 parthenogenesis, cloning, or any other means from
12 one or more human gametes or human diploid cells.

13 “(3) RISK OF INJURY.—The term ‘risk of in-
14 jury’ means subjecting a human embryo to risk of
15 injury or death greater than that allowed for re-
16 search on a fetus in utero under section 498(b) of
17 the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289g(b))
18 (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this
19 section) and section 46.204(b) of title 45, Code of
20 Federal Regulations (as so in effect).

21 “(d) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED STEM CELL RE-
22 SEARCH EXPENSES.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
24 graph (2), any qualified stem cell research expenses
25 for a taxable year to which an election under this

1 section applies shall not be taken into account for
 2 purposes of determining the credit allowable under
 3 section 41 for such taxable year.

4 “(2) TREATED AS BASE PERIOD RESEARCH EX-
 5 PENSES.—Any qualified stem cell research expenses
 6 for any taxable year which are qualified research ex-
 7 penses (within the meaning of section 41(b)) shall be
 8 taken into account in determining base period re-
 9 search expenses for purposes of applying section 41
 10 to subsequent taxable years.

11 “(e) SPECIAL RULES.—

12 “(1) LIMITATION.—No credit shall be allowed
 13 under this section with respect to any stem cell re-
 14 search conducted by a corporation to which an elec-
 15 tion under section 936 applies.

16 “(2) AGGREGATION OF EXPENDITURES AND AL-
 17 LOCATIONS OF CREDIT.—Rules similar to the rules
 18 of paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 41(f) and sec-
 19 tion 41(g) shall apply for purposes of this section.”.

20 (b) CREDIT ALLOWED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSI-
 21 NESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) of the Internal Revenue
 22 Code of 1986 is amended by striking “plus” at the end
 23 of paragraph (35), by striking the period at the end of
 24 paragraph (36) and inserting “, plus”, and by adding at
 25 the end the following new paragraph:

1 “(37) the ethical stem cell research credit deter-
 2 mined under section 45S(a).”.

3 (c) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—

4 (1) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The second sub-
 5 section (g) of section 280C of the Internal Revenue
 6 Code of 1986, as added by section 1401(b) of the
 7 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is re-
 8 designated as subsection (i).

9 (2) IN GENERAL.—Section 280C of the Internal
 10 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by paragraph
 11 (1), is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
 12 lowing new subsection:

13 “(j) ETHICAL STEM CELL RESEARCH CREDIT.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be al-
 15 lowed for that portion of the qualified stem cell re-
 16 search expenses (as defined in section 45S(c)(1))
 17 otherwise allowable as a deduction for the taxable
 18 year which is equal to the amount of the credit de-
 19 termined for such taxable year under section 45S(a).

20 “(2) SIMILAR RULE WHERE TAXPAYER CAP-
 21 ITALIZES RATHER THAN DEDUCTS EXPENSES.—If—

22 “(A) the amount of the credit determined
 23 for the taxable year under section 45S(a), ex-
 24 ceeds

1 “(B) the amount allowable as a deduction
 2 for such taxable year for qualified stem cell re-
 3 search expenses (determined without regard to
 4 paragraph (1)),
 5 the amount chargeable to capital account for the
 6 taxable year for such expenses shall be reduced by
 7 the amount of such excess.

8 “(3) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Paragraph (3) of
 9 subsection (b) shall apply for purposes of this sub-
 10 section.”.

11 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 12 for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1
 13 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by add-
 14 ing at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 45S. Ethical stem cell research.”.

15 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 16 this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after
 17 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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