

cluded in the provision of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-514, to which such amendment relates, see section 1019(a) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

Amendment by section 4001(a), (b)(1) of Pub. L. 100-647 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1987, see section 4001(c) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 117 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1114(b)(4) of Pub. L. 99-514 applicable to years beginning after Dec. 31, 1987, see section 1114(c)(2) of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 414 of this title.

Amendment by section 1151(c)(4), (g)(3) of Pub. L. 99-514 applicable, with certain qualifications and exceptions, to years beginning after Dec. 31, 1988, see section 1151(k) of Pub. L. 99-514, as amended, set out as a note under section 79 of this title.

Pub. L. 99-514, title XI, §1162(c), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2510, provided that:

“(1) SUBSECTION (a).—The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1985.

“(2) SUBSECTION (b).—The amendment made by subsection (b) [amending section 120 of this title] shall apply to years ending after December 31, 1985.

“(3) CAFETERIA PLAN WITH GROUP LEGAL BENEFITS.—If, within 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 22, 1986], an employee elects under a cafeteria plan under section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 coverage for group legal benefits to which [former] section 120 of such Code applies, such election may, at the election of the taxpayer, apply to all legal services provided during 1986. The preceding sentence shall not apply to any plan which on August 16, 1986, offered such group legal benefits under such plan.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 98-611, §1(g), Oct. 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 3178, as amended by Pub. L. 99-514, §2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section [enacting section 6039D of this title and amending this section and sections 125, 3231, and 6652 of this title] shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1983.

“(2) SUBSECTION (d).—The amendments made by subsection (d) [enacting section 6039D and amending this section and sections 125 and 6652 of this title] shall take effect on January 1, 1985.

“(3) SUBSECTION (f).—The amendment made by subsection (f) [amending section 3231 of this title] shall apply to remuneration paid after December 31, 1984.

“(4) NO PENALTIES OR INTEREST ON FAILURE TO WITHHOLD.—No penalty or interest shall be imposed on any failure to withhold under subtitle C of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 [formerly I.R.C. 1954] (relating to employment taxes) with respect to amounts excluded from gross income under section 127 of such Code (as amended by this section and determined without regard to subsection (a)(2) thereof) with respect to periods during 1984.

“(5) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 117(d).—In the case of education described in section 127(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section, section 117(d) of such Code shall be treated as in effect on and after January 1, 1984.”

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 95-600, title I, §164(d), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2814, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section and amending sections 3121, 3306, and 3401 of this title and section 409 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare] shall apply with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1978.”

REGULATIONS

Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate to issue before Feb. 1, 1988, final regulations to carry out amend-

ments made by section 1114 of Pub. L. 99-514, see section 1141 of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

EXPEDITED PROCEDURES FOR REFUNDS OF OVERPAYMENTS

Pub. L. 104-188, title I, §1202(c)(3), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1773, provided that: “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.”

SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN TAXABLE YEARS

Pub. L. 102-227, title I, §103(a)(2), Dec. 11, 1991, 105 Stat. 1687, provided that, in the case of any taxable year beginning in 1992, only amounts paid before July 1, 1992, by employer for educational assistance for employee be taken into account in determining amount excluded under this section with respect to such employee for such taxable year, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103-66, title XIII, §13101(a)(2), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 420.

Pub. L. 101-239, title VII, §7101(a)(2), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2304, provided that, in the case of any taxable year beginning in 1990, only amounts paid before Oct. 1, 1990, by employer for educational assistance for employee be taken into account in determining amount excluded under this section with respect to such employee for such taxable year, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101-508, title XI, §11403(c), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-473.

NONENFORCEMENT OF AMENDMENT MADE BY SECTION 1151 OF PUB. L. 99-514 FOR FISCAL YEAR 1990

No monies appropriated by Pub. L. 101-136 to be used to implement or enforce section 1151 of Pub. L. 99-514 or the amendments made by such section, see section 528 of Pub. L. 101-136, set out as a note under section 89 of this title.

PLAN AMENDMENTS NOT REQUIRED UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1989

For provisions directing that if any amendments made by subtitle A or subtitle C of title XI [§§1101-1147 and 1171-1177] or title XVIII [§§1800-1899A] of Pub. L. 99-514 require an amendment to any plan, such plan amendment shall not be required to be made before the first plan year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 1989, see section 1140 of Pub. L. 99-514, as amended, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

[§ 128. Repealed. Pub. L. 101-508, title XI, § 11801(a)(10), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-520]

Section, added and amended Pub. L. 97-34, title III, §§301(a), 302(a), (d)(1), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 267, 270, 274; Pub. L. 97-448, title I, §§103(a)(1), (5), (b), 109, Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2374, 2375, 2391; Pub. L. 98-21, title I, §§121(f)(2), (g), 122(c)(3), (d), Apr. 20, 1983, 97 Stat. 84, 87; Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title I, §16(a), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 505, related to interest on certain savings certificates.

A prior section 128 was renumbered section 140 of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SAVINGS PROVISION

For provisions that nothing in repeal by Pub. L. 101-508 be construed to affect treatment of certain transactions occurring, property acquired, or items of

income, loss, deduction, or credit taken into account prior to Nov. 5, 1990, for purposes of determining liability for tax for periods ending after Nov. 5, 1990, see section 11821(b) of Pub. L. 101-508, set out as a note under section 45K of this title.

§ 129. Dependent care assistance programs

(a) Exclusion

(1) In general

Gross income of an employee does not include amounts paid or incurred by the employer for dependent care assistance provided to such employee if the assistance is furnished pursuant to a program which is described in subsection (d).

(2) Limitation of exclusion

(A) In general

The amount which may be excluded under paragraph (1) for dependent care assistance with respect to dependent care services provided during a taxable year shall not exceed \$5,000 (\$2,500 in the case of a separate return by a married individual).

(B) Year of inclusion

The amount of any excess under subparagraph (A) shall be included in gross income in the taxable year in which the dependent care services were provided (even if payment of dependent care assistance for such services occurs in a subsequent taxable year).

(C) Marital status

For purposes of this paragraph, marital status shall be determined under the rules of paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 21(e).

(D) Special rule for 2021

In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2022, subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting “\$10,500 (half such dollar amount)” for “\$5,000 (\$2,500)”.

(b) Earned income limitation

(1) In general

The amount excluded from the income of an employee under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed—

(A) in the case of an employee who is not married at the close of such taxable year, the earned income of such employee for such taxable year, or

(B) in the case of an employee who is married at the close of such taxable year, the lesser of—

(i) the earned income of such employee for such taxable year, or

(ii) the earned income of the spouse of such employee for such taxable year.

(2) Special rule for certain spouses

For purposes of paragraph (1), the provisions of section 21(d)(2) shall apply in determining the earned income of a spouse who is a student or incapable of caring for himself.

(c) Payments to related individuals

No amount paid or incurred during the taxable year of an employee by an employer in providing dependent care assistance to such employee

shall be excluded under subsection (a) if such amount was paid or incurred to an individual—

(1) with respect to whom, for such taxable year, a deduction is allowable under section 151(c) (relating to personal exemptions for dependents) to such employee or the spouse of such employee, or

(2) who is a child of such employee (within the meaning of section 152(f)(1)) under the age of 19 at the close of such taxable year.

(d) Dependent care assistance program

(1) In general

For purposes of this section a dependent care assistance program is a separate written plan of an employer for the exclusive benefit of his employees to provide such employees with dependent care assistance which meets the requirements of paragraphs (2) through (8) of this subsection. If any plan would qualify as a dependent care assistance program but for a failure to meet the requirements of this subsection, then, notwithstanding such failure, such plan shall be treated as a dependent care assistance program in the case of employees who are not highly compensated employees.

(2) Discrimination

The contributions or benefits provided under the plan shall not discriminate in favor of employees who are highly compensated employees (within the meaning of section 414(q)) or their dependents.

(3) Eligibility

The program shall benefit employees who qualify under a classification set up by the employer and found by the Secretary not to be discriminatory in favor of employees described in paragraph (2), or their dependents.

(4) Principal shareholders or owners

Not more than 25 percent of the amounts paid or incurred by the employer for dependent care assistance during the year may be provided for the class of individuals who are shareholders or owners (or their spouses or dependents), each of whom (on any day of the year) owns more than 5 percent of the stock or of the capital or profits interest in the employer.

(5) No funding required

A program referred to in paragraph (1) is not required to be funded.

(6) Notification of eligible employees

Reasonable notification of the availability and terms of the program shall be provided to eligible employees.

(7) Statement of expenses

The plan shall furnish to an employee, on or before January 31, a written statement showing the amounts paid or expenses incurred by the employer in providing dependent care assistance to such employee during the previous calendar year.

(8) Benefits

(A) In general

A plan meets the requirements of this paragraph if the average benefits provided to