

1971—Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 92-178 added subsec. (d) and redesignated former subsec. (d) as (e).

1966—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 89-719 inserted sentence providing that a levy shall extend only to property possessed and obligations existing at the time thereof.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114-10, title IV, §413(b), Apr. 16, 2015, 129 Stat. 162, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to payments made after 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 16, 2015].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2014 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 113-295, div. B, title II, §209(b), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 4074, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to payments made after 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 19, 2014].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2011 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 112-56, title III, §301(b), Nov. 21, 2011, 125 Stat. 733, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to levies issued after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 21, 2011].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-357, title VIII, §887(b), Oct. 22, 2004, 118 Stat. 1642, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 22, 2004].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107-147, title IV, §416(e)(2), Mar. 9, 2002, 116 Stat. 55, provided that: “The amendment made by this subsection [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Mar. 9, 2002].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-206, title III, §3433(b), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 760, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to unpaid tax attributable to taxable periods beginning after December 31, 1998.”

Pub. L. 105-206, title III, §3444(b), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 762, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [July 22, 1998].”

Pub. L. 105-206, title III, §3462(e), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 766, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 6159 and 7122 of this title] shall apply to proposed offers-in-compromise and installment agreements submitted after the date of the enactment of this Act [July 22, 1998].

“(2) SUSPENSION OF COLLECTION BY LEVY.—The amendment made by subsection (b) [amending this section] shall apply to offers-in-compromise pending on or made after December 31, 1999.”

Amendment by section 6010(f) of Pub. L. 105-206 effective, except as otherwise provided, as if included in the provisions of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-34, to which such amendment relates, see section 6024 of Pub. L. 105-206, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-34, title X, §1024(b), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 924, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to levies issued after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 5, 1997].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-647, title VI, §6236(h), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3740, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section (other than subsection (g)) [amending this section and sections 6332, 6334, and 6343 of this title] shall apply to levies issued on or after July 1, 1989.

“(2) SUBSECTION (g).—The amendment made by subsection (g) [amending section 6335 of this title] shall apply to requests made on or after January 1, 1989.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-369 effective as if included in the provision of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, Pub. L. 97-248, to which such amendment relates, see section 715 of Pub. L. 98-369, set out as a note under section 31 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1982 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 97-248, title III, §349(b), Sept. 3, 1982, 96 Stat. 639, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to levies made after December 31, 1982.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1209(d)(1), (2), (4) of Pub. L. 94-455 effective only with respect to levies made after Feb. 28, 1977, see section 1209(e) of Pub. L. 94-455 as amended by section 2(c) of Pub. L. 94-528, Oct. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 2483, set out as a note under section 6334 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1971 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 92-178, title II, §211(b), Dec. 10, 1971, 85 Stat. 520, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply with respect to levies made after March 31, 1972.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1966 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 89-719 applicable after Nov. 2, 1966, regardless of when title or lien of United States arose or when lien or interest of another person was acquired, with certain exceptions, see section 114(a)-(c) of Pub. L. 89-719, set out as a note under section 6323 of this title.

§ 6332. Surrender of property subject to levy

(a) Requirement

Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person in possession of (or obligated with respect to) property or rights to property subject to levy upon which a levy has been made shall, upon demand of the Secretary, surrender such property or rights (or discharge such obligation) to the Secretary, except such part of the property or rights as is, at the time of such demand, subject to an attachment or execution under any judicial process.

(b) Special rule for life insurance and endowment contracts

(1) In general

A levy on an organization with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract issued by such organization shall, without necessity for the surrender of the contract document, constitute a demand by the Secretary for payment of the amount described in paragraph (2) and the exercise of the right of the person against whom the tax is assessed to the advance of such amount. Such organization shall pay over such amount 90 days after service of notice of levy. Such notice shall include a certification by the Secretary that a copy of such notice has been mailed to the person against whom the tax is assessed at his last known address.

(2) Satisfaction of levy

Such levy shall be deemed to be satisfied if such organization pays over to the Secretary the amount which the person against whom the tax is assessed could have had advanced to him by such organization on the date prescribed in paragraph (1) for the satisfaction of such levy, increased by the amount of any advance (including contractual interest thereon) made to such person on or after the date such organization had actual notice or knowledge (within the meaning of section 6323(i)(1)) of the existence of the lien with respect to which such levy is made, other than an advance (including contractual interest thereon) made automatically to maintain such contract in force under an agreement entered into before such organization had such notice or knowledge.

(3) Enforcement proceedings

The satisfaction of a levy under paragraph (2) shall be without prejudice to any civil action for the enforcement of any lien imposed by this title with respect to such contract.

(c) Special rule for banks

Any bank (as defined in section 408(n)) shall surrender (subject to an attachment or execution under judicial process) any deposits (including interest thereon) in such bank only after 21 days after service of levy.

(d) Enforcement of levy**(1) Extent of personal liability**

Any person who fails or refuses to surrender any property or rights to property, subject to levy, upon demand by the Secretary, shall be liable in his own person and estate to the United States in a sum equal to the value of the property or rights not so surrendered, but not exceeding the amount of taxes for the collection of which such levy has been made, together with costs and interest on such sum at the underpayment rate established under section 6621 from the date of such levy (or, in the case of a levy described in section 6331(d)(3), from the date such person would otherwise have been obligated to pay over such amounts to the taxpayer). Any amount (other than costs) recovered under this paragraph shall be credited against the tax liability for the collection of which such levy was made.

(2) Penalty for violation

In addition to the personal liability imposed by paragraph (1), if any person required to surrender property or rights to property fails or refuses to surrender such property or rights to property without reasonable cause, such person shall be liable for a penalty equal to 50 percent of the amount recoverable under paragraph (1). No part of such penalty shall be credited against the tax liability for the collection of which such levy was made.

(e) Effect of honoring levy

Any person in possession of (or obligated with respect to) property or rights to property subject to levy upon which a levy has been made who, upon demand by the Secretary, surrenders such property or rights to property (or dis-

charges such obligation) to the Secretary (or who pays a liability under subsection (d)(1)) shall be discharged from any obligation or liability to the delinquent taxpayer and any other person with respect to such property or rights to property arising from such surrender or payment.

(f) Person defined

The term "person," as used in subsection (a), includes an officer or employee of a corporation or a member or employee of a partnership, who as such officer, employee, or member is under a duty to surrender the property or rights to property, or to discharge the obligation.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 784; Pub. L. 89-719, title I, §104(b), Nov. 2, 1966, 80 Stat. 1135; Pub. L. 93-625, §7(a)(2)(D), Jan. 3, 1975, 88 Stat. 2115; Pub. L. 94-455, title XII, §1209(d)(3), title XIX, §1906(b)(13)(A), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1710, 1834; Pub. L. 99-514, title XV, §1511(c)(9), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2745; Pub. L. 100-647, title I, §1015(t)(1), title VI, §6236(e), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3573, 3739; Pub. L. 101-508, title XI, §11704(a)(27), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-519.)

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-508 substituted "this section" for "subsections (b) and (c)".

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-647, §6236(e)(2)(A), substituted "subsections (b) and (c)" for "subsection (b)".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-647, §6236(e)(1), added subsec. (c). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (d).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 100-647, §6236(e)(1), redesignated subsec. (c) as (d). Former subsec. (d) redesignated (e).

Pub. L. 100-647, §1015(t)(1), inserted "and any other person" after "delinquent taxpayer" and struck out sentence at end providing that in the case of a levy which is satisfied pursuant to subsection (b), such organization shall also be discharged from any obligation or liability to any beneficiary arising from such surrender or payment.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-647, §6236(e)(1), (2)(B), redesignated subsec. (d) as (e) and substituted "subsection (d)(1)" for "subsection (c)(1)". Former subsec. (e) redesignated (f).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 100-647, §6236(e)(1), redesignated subsec. (e) as (f).

1986—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 99-514 substituted "the underpayment rate established under section 6621" for "an annual rate established under section 6621".

1976—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 94-455, §1906(b)(13)(A), struck out "or his delegate" after "Secretary" wherever appearing.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 94-455, §§1209(d)(3), 1906(b)(13)(A), inserted "(or, in the case of a levy described in section 6331(d)(3), from the date such person would otherwise have been obligated to pay over such amounts to the taxpayer)" after "date of such levy", and struck out "or his delegate" after "Secretary".

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 94-455, §1906(b)(13)(A), struck out "or his delegate" after "Secretary".

1975—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 93-625 substituted "an annual rate established under section 6621" for "the rate of 6 percent per annum".

1966—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 89-719, §104(b)(1), substituted "Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), any person" for "Any person".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 89-719, §104(b)(2), added subsec. (b). Former subsec. (b) redesignated, with amendments, as subsec. (c)(1).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 89-719, §104(b)(2)-(4), redesignated as par. (1) provisions formerly set out as subsec. (b), inserted provisions that any amount other than costs re-

covered under par. (1) shall be credited against the tax liability for the collection of which the levy was made, and added par. (2). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (e). Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 89-719, §104(b)(4), added subsec. (d).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 89-719, §104(b)(3), redesignated former subsec. (c) as (e).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-647, title I, §1015(t)(2), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3573, provided that: "The amendment made by this subsection [amending this section] shall apply to levies issued after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 10, 1988]."

Amendment by section 6236(e) of Pub. L. 100-647 applicable to levies issued on or after July 1, 1989, see section 6236(h)(1) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 6331 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-514 applicable for purposes of determining interest for periods after Dec. 31, 1986, see section 1511(d) of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 47 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1209(d)(3) of Pub. L. 94-455 effective only with respect to levies made after Feb. 28, 1977, see section 1209(e) of Pub. L. 94-455, as amended by section 2(c) of Pub. L. 94-528, Oct. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 2483, set out as a note under section 6334 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1975 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 93-625 effective July 1, 1975, and applicable to amounts outstanding on such date or arising thereafter, see section 7(e) of Pub. L. 93-625, set out as an Effective Date note under section 6621 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1966 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 89-719 applicable after Nov. 2, 1966, regardless of when title or lien of United States arose or when lien or interest of another person was acquired, with certain exceptions, see section 114(a)-(c) of Pub. L. 89-719, set out as a note under section 6323 of this title.

§ 6333. Production of books

If a levy has been made or is about to be made on any property, or right to property, any person having custody or control of any books or records, containing evidence or statements relating to the property or right to property subject to levy, shall, upon demand of the Secretary, exhibit such books or records to the Secretary.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 784; Pub. L. 94-455, title XIX, §1906(b)(13)(A), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1834.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-455 struck out "or his delegate" after "Secretary" wherever appearing.

§ 6334. Property exempt from levy

(a) Enumeration

There shall be exempt from levy—

(1) Wearing apparel and school books

Such items of wearing apparel and such school books as are necessary for the taxpayer or for members of his family;

(2) Fuel, provisions, furniture, and personal effects

So much of the fuel, provisions, furniture, and personal effects in the taxpayer's household, and of the arms for personal use, live-stock, and poultry of the taxpayer, as does not exceed \$6,250 in value;

(3) Books and tools of a trade, business, or profession

So many of the books and tools necessary for the trade, business, or profession of the taxpayer as do not exceed in the aggregate \$3,125 in value.

(4) Unemployment benefits

Any amount payable to an individual with respect to his unemployment (including any portion thereof payable with respect to dependents) under an unemployment compensation law of the United States, of any State, or of the District of Columbia or of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(5) Undelivered mail

Mail, addressed to any person, which has not been delivered to the addressee.

(6) Certain annuity and pension payments

Annuity or pension payments under the Railroad Retirement Act, benefits under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, special pension payments received by a person whose name has been entered on the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard Medal of Honor roll (38 U.S.C. 1562), and annuities based on retired or retainer pay under chapter 73 of title 10 of the United States Code.

(7) Workmen's compensation

Any amount payable to an individual as workmen's compensation (including any portion thereof payable with respect to dependents) under a workmen's compensation law of the United States, any State, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(8) Judgments for support of minor children

If the taxpayer is required by judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, entered prior to the date of levy, to contribute to the support of his minor children, so much of his salary, wages, or other income as is necessary to comply with such judgment.

(9) Minimum exemption for wages, salary, and other income

Any amount payable to or received by an individual as wages or salary for personal services, or as income derived from other sources, during any period, to the extent that the total of such amounts payable to or received by him during such period does not exceed the applicable exempt amount determined under subsection (d).

(10) Certain service-connected disability payments

Any amount payable to an individual as a service-connected (within the meaning of section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) disability benefit under—