

established by title II of the Social Security Act extended to the officers and employees of such Government and such political subdivisions and instrumentalities, see section 103(v)(1) of Pub. L. 86-778, set out as an Effective Date of 1960 Amendment note under section 402 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

**§ 3126. Return and payment by governmental employer**

If the employer is a State or political subdivision thereof, or an agency or instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing, the return of the amount deducted and withheld upon any wages under section 3101 and the amount of the tax imposed by section 3111 may be made by any officer or employee of such State or political subdivision or such agency or instrumentality, as the case may be, having control of the payment of such wages, or appropriately designated for that purpose.

(Added Pub. L. 99-509, title IX, §9002(a)(1), Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1970.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3126 was renumbered section 3128 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section, except as otherwise provided, effective with respect to payments due with respect to wages paid after Dec. 31, 1986, including wages paid after such date by a State (or political subdivision thereof) that modified its agreement pursuant to section 418(e)(2) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, see section 9002(d) of Pub. L. 99-509, set out as an Effective Date of 1986 Amendment note under section 418 of Title 42.

**§ 3127. Exemption for employers and their employees where both are members of religious faiths opposed to participation in Social Security Act programs**

**(a) In general**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter (and under regulations prescribed to carry out this section), in any case where—

(1) an employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, each partner therein) is a member of a recognized religious sect or division thereof described in section 1402(g)(1) and an adherent of established tenets or teachings of such sect or division as described in such section, and has filed and had approved under subsection (b) an application (in such form and manner, and with such official, as may be prescribed by such regulations) for an exemption from the taxes imposed by section 3111, and

(2) an employee of such employer who is also a member of such a religious sect or division and an adherent of its established tenets or teachings has filed and had approved under subsection (b) an identical application for exemption from the taxes imposed by section 3101,

such employer shall be exempt from the taxes imposed by section 3111 with respect to wages paid to each of the employees thereof who meets the requirements of paragraph (2) and each such employee shall be exempt from the taxes imposed by section 3101 with respect to such wages paid to him by such employer.

**(b) Approval of application**

An application for exemption filed by an employer (or a partner) under subsection (a)(1) or by an employee under subsection (a)(2) shall be approved only if—

(1) such application contains or is accompanied by the evidence described in section 1402(g)(1)(A) and a waiver described in section 1402(g)(1)(B),

(2) the Commissioner of Social Security makes the findings (with respect to such sect or division) described in section 1402(g)(1)(C), (D), and (E), and

(3) no benefit or other payment referred to in section 1402(g)(1)(B) became payable (or, but for section 203 or 222(b)<sup>1</sup> of the Social Security Act, would have become payable) to the individual filing the application at or before the time of such filing.

**(c) Effective period of exemption**

An exemption granted under this section to any employer with respect to wages paid to any of the employees thereof, or granted to any such employee, shall apply with respect to wages paid by such employer during the period—

(1) commencing with the first day of the first calendar quarter, after the quarter in which such application is filed, throughout which such employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, each partner therein) or employee meets the applicable requirements specified in subsections (a) and (b), and

(2) ending with the last day of the calendar quarter preceding the first calendar quarter thereafter in which (A) such employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, any partner therein) or the employee involved does not meet the applicable requirements of subsection (a), or (B) the sect or division thereof of which such employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, any partner therein) or employee is a member is found by the Commissioner of Social Security to have ceased to meet the requirements of subsection (b)(2).

(Added Pub. L. 100-647, title VIII, §8007(a)(1), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3781; amended Pub. L. 101-239, title X, §10204(b)(1), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2474; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, §108(h)(3), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1487.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 203 and 222(b) of the Social Security Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), are classified to sections 403 and 422(b), respectively, of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. Section 222(b) was repealed by Pub. L. 106-170, title I, §101(b)(1)(C), Dec. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 1873.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3127 was renumbered section 3128 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsecs. (b)(2), (c)(2). Pub. L. 103-296 substituted “Commissioner of Social Security” for “Secretary of Health and Human Services”.

1989—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(B), substituted “the employees thereof” for “his employees” in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(A), inserted “(or, if the employer is a partnership, each partner therein)” after “an employer”.

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.