

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008.

“(2) EFFICIENCY STANDARDS.—The amendments made by paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b) and subsections (c) and (d) shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act [Feb. 17, 2009].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 110-343, div. B, title III, §302(f), Oct. 3, 2008, 122 Stat. 3845, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made [by] this section [amending this section] shall apply to expenditures made after December 31, 2008.

“(2) MODIFICATION OF QUALIFIED ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS.—The amendments made by subsection (e) [amending this section] shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 3, 2008].”

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 109-58, title XIII, §1333(c), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1030, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section and amending section 1016 of this title] shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2005.”

§ 25D. Residential energy efficient property

(a) Allowance of credit

In the case of an individual, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the sum of—

- (1) 30 percent of the qualified solar electric property expenditures made by the taxpayer during such year,
- (2) 30 percent of the qualified solar water heating property expenditures made by the taxpayer during such year,
- (3) 30 percent of the qualified fuel cell property expenditures made by the taxpayer during such year,
- (4) 30 percent of the qualified small wind energy property expenditures made by the taxpayer during such year, and
- (5) 30 percent of the qualified geothermal heat pump property expenditures made by the taxpayer during such year.

(b) Limitations

(1) Maximum credit for fuel cells

In the case of any qualified fuel cell property expenditure, the credit allowed under subsection (a) (determined without regard to subsection (c)) for any taxable year shall not exceed \$500 with respect to each half kilowatt of capacity of the qualified fuel cell property (as defined in section 48(c)(1)) to which such expenditure relates.

(2) Certification of solar water heating property

No credit shall be allowed under this section for an item of property described in subsection (d)(1) unless such property is certified for performance by the non-profit Solar Rating Certification Corporation or a comparable entity endorsed by the government of the State in which such property is installed.

(c) Carryforward of unused credit

If the credit allowable under subsection (a) exceeds the limitation imposed by section 26(a) for

such taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under this subpart (other than this section), such excess shall be carried to the succeeding taxable year and added to the credit allowable under subsection (a) for such succeeding taxable year.

(d) Definitions

For purposes of this section—

(1) Qualified solar water heating property expenditure

The term “qualified solar water heating property expenditure” means an expenditure for property to heat water for use in a dwelling unit located in the United States and used as a residence by the taxpayer if at least half of the energy used by such property for such purpose is derived from the sun.

(2) Qualified solar electric property expenditure

The term “qualified solar electric property expenditure” means an expenditure for property which uses solar energy to generate electricity for use in a dwelling unit located in the United States and used as a residence by the taxpayer.

(3) Qualified fuel cell property expenditure

The term “qualified fuel cell property expenditure” means an expenditure for qualified fuel cell property (as defined in section 48(c)(1)) installed on or in connection with a dwelling unit located in the United States and used as a principal residence (within the meaning of section 121) by the taxpayer.

(4) Qualified small wind energy property expenditure

The term “qualified small wind energy property expenditure” means an expenditure for property which uses a wind turbine to generate electricity for use in connection with a dwelling unit located in the United States and used as a residence by the taxpayer.

(5) Qualified geothermal heat pump property expenditure

(A) In general

The term “qualified geothermal heat pump property expenditure” means an expenditure for qualified geothermal heat pump property installed on or in connection with a dwelling unit located in the United States and used as a residence by the taxpayer.

(B) Qualified geothermal heat pump property

The term “qualified geothermal heat pump property” means any equipment which—

- (i) uses the ground or ground water as a thermal energy source to heat the dwelling unit referred to in subparagraph (A) or as a thermal energy sink to cool such dwelling unit, and
- (ii) meets the requirements of the Energy Star program which are in effect at the time that the expenditure for such equipment is made.

(e) Special rules

For purposes of this section—

(1) Labor costs

Expenditures for labor costs properly allocable to the onsite preparation, assembly, or

original installation of the property described in subsection (d) and for piping or wiring to interconnect such property to the dwelling unit shall be taken into account for purposes of this section.

(2) Solar panels

No expenditure relating to a solar panel or other property installed as a roof (or portion thereof) shall fail to be treated as property described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (d) solely because it constitutes a structural component of the structure on which it is installed.

(3) Swimming pools, etc., used as storage medium

Expenditures which are properly allocable to a swimming pool, hot tub, or any other energy storage medium which has a function other than the function of such storage shall not be taken into account for purposes of this section.

(4) Fuel cell expenditure limitations in case of joint occupancy

In the case of any dwelling unit with respect to which qualified fuel cell property expenditures are made and which is jointly occupied and used during any calendar year as a residence by two or more individuals, the following rules shall apply:

(A) Maximum expenditures for fuel cells

The maximum amount of such expenditures which may be taken into account under subsection (a) by all such individuals with respect to such dwelling unit during such calendar year shall be \$1,667 in the case of each half kilowatt of capacity of qualified fuel cell property (as defined in section 48(c)(1)) with respect to which such expenditures relate.

(B) Allocation of expenditures

The expenditures allocated to any individual for the taxable year in which such calendar year ends shall be an amount equal to the lesser of—

(i) the amount of expenditures made by such individual with respect to such dwelling during such calendar year, or

(ii) the maximum amount of such expenditures set forth in subparagraph (A) multiplied by a fraction—

(I) the numerator of which is the amount of such expenditures with respect to such dwelling made by such individual during such calendar year, and

(II) the denominator of which is the total expenditures made by all such individuals with respect to such dwelling during such calendar year.

(5) Tenant-stockholder in cooperative housing corporation

In the case of an individual who is a tenant-stockholder (as defined in section 216) in a cooperative housing corporation (as defined in such section), such individual shall be treated as having made his tenant-stockholder's proportionate share (as defined in section 216(b)(3)) of any expenditures of such corporation.

(6) Condominiums

(A) In general

In the case of an individual who is a member of a condominium management association with respect to a condominium which the individual owns, such individual shall be treated as having made the individual's proportionate share of any expenditures of such association.

(B) Condominium management association

For purposes of this paragraph, the term "condominium management association" means an organization which meets the requirements of paragraph (1) of section 528(c) (other than subparagraph (E) thereof) with respect to a condominium project substantially all of the units of which are used as residences.

(7) Allocation in certain cases

If less than 80 percent of the use of an item is for nonbusiness purposes, only that portion of the expenditures for such item which is properly allocable to use for nonbusiness purposes shall be taken into account.

(8) When expenditure made; amount of expenditure

(A) In general

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), an expenditure with respect to an item shall be treated as made when the original installation of the item is completed.

(B) Expenditures part of building construction

In the case of an expenditure in connection with the construction or reconstruction of a structure, such expenditure shall be treated as made when the original use of the constructed or reconstructed structure by the taxpayer begins.

(f) Basis adjustments

For purposes of this subtitle, if a credit is allowed under this section for any expenditure with respect to any property, the increase in the basis of such property which would (but for this subsection) result from such expenditure shall be reduced by the amount of the credit so allowed.

(g) Termination

The credit allowed under this section shall not apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2016.

(Added Pub. L. 109-58, title XIII, § 1335(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1033; amended Pub. L. 109-135, title IV, § 402(i)(1), (2), (3)(E), Dec. 21, 2005, 119 Stat. 2612, 2614; Pub. L. 109-432, div. A, title II, § 206, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2945; Pub. L. 110-343, div. B, title I, § 106(a)-(c)(3)(A), (c)(4)-(e)(1), Oct. 3, 2008, 122 Stat. 3814-3816; Pub. L. 111-5, div. B, title I, §§ 1103(b)(2)(B), 1122(a), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 320, 324; Pub. L. 112-240, title I, § 104(c)(2)(F), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2322; Pub. L. 114-113, div. P, title III, § 304(a), Dec. 18, 2015, 129 Stat. 3039.)

AMENDMENT OF SECTION

Pub. L. 114-113, div. P, title III, § 304, Dec. 18, 2015, 129 Stat. 3039, provided that, effective Jan. 1, 2017, this section is amended as follows:

(1) in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), by striking “30 percent” each place it appears and inserting “the applicable percentage”;

(2) in subsection (g), by inserting “(December 31, 2021, in the case of any qualified solar electric property expenditures and qualified solar water heating property expenditures)” before the period at the end;

(3) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

(g) *Applicable percentage*

For purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), the applicable percentage shall be—

(1) in the case of property placed in service after December 31, 2016, and before January 1, 2020, 30 percent,

(2) in the case of property placed in service after December 31, 2019, and before January 1, 2021, 26 percent, and

(3) in the case of property placed in service after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2022, 22 percent.

See 2015 Amendment notes below.

AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsec. (a)(1), (2). Pub. L. 114-113, § 304(a)(1), substituted “the applicable percentage” for “30 percent”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 114-113, § 304(a)(4), added subsec. (g). Former subsec. (g) redesignated (h).

Pub. L. 114-113, § 304(a)(2), inserted “(December 31, 2021, in the case of any qualified solar electric property expenditures and qualified solar water heating property expenditures)” before period at end.

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 114-113, § 304(a)(3), redesignated subsec. (g) as (h).

2013—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 112-240 amended subsec. (c) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (c) related to limitation based on amount of tax and carryforward of unused credit.

2009—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1122(a)(1), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) related to maximum credit with respect to qualified solar water heating property expenditures, qualified fuel cell property, qualified small wind energy property expenditures, and qualified geothermal heat pump property expenditures.

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1122(a)(2)(A), added par. heading and introductory provisions and struck out former heading and introductory provisions. Former introductory provisions read as follows: “In the case of any dwelling unit which is jointly occupied and used during any calendar year as a residence by two or more individuals the following rules shall apply:”.

Subsec. (e)(4)(A). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1122(a)(2)(A), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A) which related to maximum amount of expenditures allowed for credit in jointly occupied dwelling units with respect to qualified solar water heating property expenditures, qualified fuel cell property, qualified small wind energy property expenditures, and qualified geothermal heat pump property expenditures.

Subsec. (e)(4)(C). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1122(a)(2)(B), struck out subpar. (C) which read as follows: “Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be applied separately with respect to expenditures described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (d).”

Subsec. (e)(9). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1103(b)(2)(B), struck out par. (9). Text read as follows: “For purposes of determining the amount of expenditures made by any individual with respect to any dwelling unit, there shall not be taken into account expenditures which are made from subsidized energy financing (as defined in section 48(a)(4)(C)).”

2008—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(c)(1), added par. (4).

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(d)(1), added par. (5).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(b)(1), amended par. (1) as amended by Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(c)(2) and (d)(2), by redesignating subpars. (B) to (E) as (A) to (D), respectively, and striking out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “\$2,000 with respect to any qualified solar electric property expenditures.”.

Subsec. (b)(1)(D). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(c)(2), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (b)(1)(E). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(d)(2), added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(e)(1), amended heading and text of subsec. (c) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (c) related to carryforward of unused credit.

Subsec. (d)(4). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(c)(3)(A), added par. (4).

Subsec. (d)(5). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(d)(3), added par. (5).

Subsec. (e)(4)(A). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(b)(2), amended subpar. (A) as amended by Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(c)(4) and (d)(4), by redesignating cls. (ii) to (v) as (i) to (iv), respectively, and striking out former cl. (i) which read as follows: “\$6,667 in the case of any qualified solar electric property expenditures.”.

Subsec. (e)(4)(A)(iv). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(c)(4), added cl. (iv).

Subsec. (e)(4)(A)(v). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(d)(4), added cl. (v).

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 110-343, § 106(a), substituted “December 31, 2016” for “December 31, 2008”.

2006—Subsecs. (a)(1), (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 109-432, § 206(b)(1), substituted “solar electric property expenditures” for “photovoltaic property expenditures”.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 109-432, § 206(b)(2), substituted “solar electric property expenditure” for “photovoltaic property expenditure” in heading and text.

Subsec. (e)(4)(A)(i). Pub. L. 109-432, § 206(b)(1), substituted “solar electric property expenditures” for “photovoltaic property expenditures”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 109-432, § 206(a), substituted “2008” for “2007”.

2005—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 109-135, § 402(i)(1), inserted “(determined without regard to subsection (c))” after “subsection (a)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-135, § 402(i)(3)(E), reenacted heading without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “If the credit allowable under subsection (a) exceeds the limitation imposed by section 26(a) for such taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under this subpart (other than this section), such excess shall be carried to the succeeding taxable year and added to the credit allowable under subsection (a) for such succeeding taxable year.”

Subsec. (e)(4)(A), (B). Pub. L. 109-135, § 402(i)(2), amended subpars. (A) and (B) generally. Prior to amendment, subpars. (A) and (B) read as follows:

“(A) The amount of the credit allowable, under subsection (a) by reason of expenditures (as the case may be) made during such calendar year by any of such individuals with respect to such dwelling unit shall be determined by treating all of such individuals as 1 taxpayer whose taxable year is such calendar year.

“(B) There shall be allowable, with respect to such expenditures to each of such individuals, a credit under subsection (a) for the taxable year in which such calendar year ends in an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount determined under subparagraph (A) as the amount of such expenditures made by such individual during such calendar year bears to the aggregate of such expenditures made by all of such individuals during such calendar year.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114-113, div. P, title III, § 304(b), Dec. 18, 2015, 129 Stat. 3040, provided that: “The amendments made

by this section [amending this section] shall take effect on January 1, 2017.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2013 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-240 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2011, see section 104(d) of Pub. L. 112-240, set out as a note under section 23 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1103(b)(2)(B) of Pub. L. 111-5 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2008, see section 1103(c)(2) of Pub. L. 111-5, set out as a note under section 25C of this title.

Pub. L. 111-5, div. B, title I, §1122(b), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 324, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 110-343 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2007, except that amendment by section 106(b) of Pub. L. 110-343 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2008, see section 106(f)(1), (2) of Pub. L. 110-343, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 2008 Amendment note under section 23 of this title.

EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 2005 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 402(i)(3)(E) of Pub. L. 109-135 subject to title IX of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-16, §901, in the same manner as the provisions of such Act to which such amendment relates, see section 402(i)(3)(H) of Pub. L. 109-135, set out as a note under section 23 of this title. Title IX of Pub. L. 107-16 was repealed by Pub. L. 112-240, title I, §101(a)(1), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2315.

Amendments by Pub. L. 109-135 effective as if included in the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Pub. L. 109-58, to which they relate, except that amendment by section 402(i)(3)(E) of Pub. L. 109-135 is applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2005, see section 402(m) of Pub. L. 109-135, set out as a note under section 23 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to property placed in service after Dec. 31, 2005, in taxable years ending after such date, see section 1335(c) of Pub. L. 109-58, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 2005 Amendments note under section 23 of this title.

§ 26. Limitation based on tax liability; definition of tax liability

(a) Limitation based on amount of tax

The aggregate amount of credits allowed by this subpart for the taxable year shall not exceed the sum of—

- (1) the taxpayer’s regular tax liability for the taxable year reduced by the foreign tax credit allowable under section 27(a), and
- (2) the tax imposed by section 55(a) for the taxable year.

(b) Regular tax liability

For purposes of this part—

(1) In general

The term “regular tax liability” means the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year.

(2) Exception for certain taxes

For purposes of paragraph (1), any tax imposed by any of the following provisions shall not be treated as tax imposed by this chapter:

- (A) section 55 (relating to minimum tax),
- [(B) Repealed. Pub. L. 113-295, div. A, title II, §221(a)(12)(B), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 4038.]
- (C) subsection (m)(5)(B), (q), (t), or (v) of section 72 (relating to additional taxes on certain distributions),
- (D) section 143(m) (relating to recapture of proration of Federal subsidy from use of mortgage bonds and mortgage credit certificates),
- (E) section 530(d)(4) (relating to additional tax on certain distributions from Coverdell education savings accounts),
- (F) section 531 (relating to accumulated earnings tax),
- (G) section 541 (relating to personal holding company tax),
- (H) section 1351(d)(1) (relating to recoveries of foreign expropriation losses),
- (I) section 1374 (relating to tax on certain built-in gains of S corporations),
- (J) section 1375 (relating to tax imposed when passive investment income of corporation having subchapter C earnings and profits exceeds 25 percent of gross receipts),
- (K) subparagraph (A) of section 7518(g)(6) (relating to nonqualified withdrawals from capital construction funds taxed at highest marginal rate),
- (L) sections 871(a) and 881 (relating to certain income of nonresident aliens and foreign corporations),
- (M) section 860E(e) (relating to taxes with respect to certain residual interests),
- (N) section 884 (relating to branch profits tax),
- (O) sections 453(l)(3) and 453A(c) (relating to interest on certain deferred tax liabilities),
- (P) section 860K¹ (relating to treatment of transfers of high-yield interests to disqualified holders),
- (Q) section 220(f)(4) (relating to additional tax on Archer MSA distributions not used for qualified medical expenses),
- (R) section 138(c)(2) (relating to penalty for distributions from Medicare Advantage MSA not used for qualified medical expenses if minimum balance not maintained),
- (S) sections 106(e)(3)(A)(ii), 223(b)(8)(B)(i)(II), and 408(d)(9)(D)(i)(II) (relating to certain failures to maintain high deductible health plan coverage),
- (T) section 170(o)(3)(B) (relating to recapture of certain deductions for fractional gifts),
- (U) section 223(f)(4) (relating to additional tax on health savings account distributions not used for qualified medical expenses),
- (V) subsections (a)(1)(B)(i) and (b)(4)(A) of section 409A (relating to interest and additional tax with respect to certain deferred compensation),
- (W) section 36(f) (relating to recapture of homebuyer credit),
- (X) section 457A(c)(1)(B) (relating to determinability of amounts of compensation), and
- (Y) section 529A(c)(3)(A) (relating to additional tax on ABLE account distributions not used for qualified disability expenses).

¹ See References in Text note below.