

or interest of another person was acquired, with certain exceptions, see section 114(a)-(c) of Pub. L. 89-719, set out as an Effective Date of 1966 Amendment note under section 6323 of this title.

§ 7811. Taxpayer Assistance Orders

(a) Authority to issue

(1) In general

Upon application filed by a taxpayer with the Office of the Taxpayer Advocate (in such form, manner, and at such time as the Secretary shall by regulations prescribe), the National Taxpayer Advocate may issue a Taxpayer Assistance Order if—

(A) the National Taxpayer Advocate determines the taxpayer is suffering or about to suffer a significant hardship as a result of the manner in which the internal revenue laws are being administered by the Secretary; or

(B) the taxpayer meets such other requirements as are set forth in regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(2) Determination of hardship

For purposes of paragraph (1), a significant hardship shall include—

(A) an immediate threat of adverse action;

(B) a delay of more than 30 days in resolving taxpayer account problems;

(C) the incurring by the taxpayer of significant costs (including fees for professional representation) if relief is not granted; or

(D) irreparable injury to, or a long-term adverse impact on, the taxpayer if relief is not granted.

(3) Standard where administrative guidance not followed

In cases where any Internal Revenue Service employee is not following applicable published administrative guidance (including the Internal Revenue Manual), the National Taxpayer Advocate shall construe the factors taken into account in determining whether to issue a Taxpayer Assistance Order in the manner most favorable to the taxpayer.

(b) Terms of a Taxpayer Assistance Order

The terms of a Taxpayer Assistance Order may require the Secretary within a specified time period—

(1) to release property of the taxpayer levied upon, or

(2) to cease any action, take any action as permitted by law, or refrain from taking any action, with respect to the taxpayer under—

(A) chapter 64 (relating to collection),

(B) subchapter B of chapter 70 (relating to bankruptcy and receiverships),

(C) chapter 78 (relating to discovery of liability and enforcement of title), or

(D) any other provision of law which is specifically described by the National Taxpayer Advocate in such order.

(c) Authority to modify or rescind

Any Taxpayer Assistance Order issued by the National Taxpayer Advocate under this section may be modified or rescinded—

(1) only by the National Taxpayer Advocate, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, or the

Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and

(2) only if a written explanation of the reasons for the modification or rescission is provided to the National Taxpayer Advocate.

(d) Suspension of running of period of limitation

The running of any period of limitation with respect to any action described in subsection (b) shall be suspended for—

(1) the period beginning on the date of the taxpayer's application under subsection (a) and ending on the date of the National Taxpayer Advocate's decision with respect to such application, and

(2) any period specified by the National Taxpayer Advocate in a Taxpayer Assistance Order issued pursuant to such application.

(e) Independent action of National Taxpayer Advocate

Nothing in this section shall prevent the National Taxpayer Advocate from taking any action in the absence of an application under subsection (a).

(f) National Taxpayer Advocate

For purposes of this section, the term "National Taxpayer Advocate" includes any designee of the National Taxpayer Advocate.

(g) Application to persons performing services under a qualified tax collection contract

Any order issued or action taken by the National Taxpayer Advocate pursuant to this section shall apply to persons performing services under a qualified tax collection contract (as defined in section 6306(b)) to the same extent and in the same manner as such order or action applies to the Secretary.

(Added Pub. L. 100-647, title VI, § 6230(a), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3733; amended Pub. L. 104-168, title I, §§ 101(b)(1), 102(a), (b), July 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 1455, 1456; Pub. L. 105-206, title I, § 1102(c), (d)(1)(C)-(G), (2), (3), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 703, 704; Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(7) [title III, § 319(28)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-648; Pub. L. 108-357, title VIII, § 881(c), Oct. 22, 2004, 118 Stat. 1626.)

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 108-357 added subsec. (g).

2000—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(7) [title III, § 319(28)], substituted "Taxpayer Assistance Order" for "taxpayer assistance order".

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(7) [title III, § 319(29)], substituted "National Taxpayer Advocate's" for "Ombudsman's".

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-206, § 1102(c), reenacted heading without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: "Upon application filed by a taxpayer with the Office of the Taxpayer Advocate (in such form, manner, and at such time as the Secretary shall by regulations prescribe), the Taxpayer Advocate may issue a Taxpayer Assistance Order if, in the determination of the Taxpayer Advocate, the taxpayer is suffering or about to suffer a significant hardship as a result of the manner in which the internal revenue laws are being administered by the Secretary."

Subsec. (b)(2)(D). Pub. L. 105-206, § 1102(d)(1)(C), substituted "National Taxpayer Advocate" for "Taxpayer Advocate".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 105-206, § 1102(d)(1)(D), substituted "National Taxpayer Advocate" for "Taxpayer Advocate" wherever appearing.

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 105-206, §1102(d)(2), which directed amendment of par. (1) by substituting “National Taxpayer Advocate’s” for “Taxpayer Advocate’s”, could not be executed because the words “Taxpayer Advocate’s” did not appear.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 105-206, §1102(d)(1)(E), substituted “National Taxpayer Advocate” for “Taxpayer Advocate”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 105-206, §1102(d)(1)(F), (3), substituted “National Taxpayer Advocate” for “Taxpayer Advocate” in heading and text.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 105-206, §1102(d)(1)(G), (3), substituted “National Taxpayer Advocate” for “Taxpayer Advocate” in heading and in two places in text.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-168, §101(b)(1), substituted “the Office of the Taxpayer Advocate” for “the Office of the Ombudsman” and substituted “Taxpayer Advocate” for “Ombudsman” in two places.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-168, §102(a)(1), inserted “with- in a specified time period” after “the Secretary”.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 104-168, §102(a)(2), inserted “take any action as permitted by law,” after “cease any action,”.

Subsec. (b)(2)(D). Pub. L. 104-168, §101(b)(1)(B), substituted “Taxpayer Advocate” for “Ombudsman”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-168, §102(b), reenacted heading without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Any Taxpayer Assistance Order issued by the Ombudsman under this section may be modified or rescinded only by the Ombudsman, a district director, a service center director, a compliance center director, a regional director of appeals, or any superior of any such person.”

Subsecs. (d)(2) to (f). Pub. L. 104-168, §101(b)(1)(B), substituted “Taxpayer Advocate” for “Ombudsman” wherever appearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 101(b)(1) of Pub. L. 104-168 effective July 30, 1996, see section 101(c) of Pub. L. 104-168, set out as a note under section 7802 of this title.

Pub. L. 104-168, title I, §102(c), July 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 1456, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [July 30, 1996].”

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 100-647, title VI, §6230(d), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3734, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section] shall take effect on January 1, 1989.”

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 100-647, title VI, §6230(c), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3734, provided that: “The Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate shall issue such regulations as the Secretary deems necessary within 90 days of the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 10, 1988] in order to carry out the purposes of section 7811 of the 1986 Code (as added by this section) and to ensure taxpayers uniform access to administrative procedures.”

Subchapter B—Effective Date and Related Provisions

Sec.	
7851.	Applicability of revenue laws.
7852.	Other applicable rules.

§ 7851. Applicability of revenue laws

(a) General rules

Except as otherwise provided in any section of this title—

(1) Subtitle A

(A) Chapters 1, 2, 4,¹ and 6 of this title shall apply only with respect to taxable years be-

¹ See References in Text note below.

ginning after December 31, 1953, and ending after the date of enactment of this title, and with respect to such taxable years, chapters 1 (except sections 143 and 144) and 2, and section 3801, of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939 are hereby repealed.

(B) Chapters 3 and 5¹ of this title shall apply with respect to payments and transfers occurring after December 31, 1954, and as to such payments and transfers sections 143 and 144 and chapter 7 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939 are hereby repealed.

(C) Any provision of subtitle A of this title the applicability of which is stated in terms of a specific date (occurring after December 31, 1953), or in terms of taxable years ending after a specific date (occurring after December 31, 1953), shall apply to taxable years ending after such specific date. Each such provision shall, in the case of a taxable year subject to the Internal Revenue Code of 1939, be deemed to be included in the Internal Revenue Code of 1939, but shall be applicable only to taxable years ending after such specific date. The provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939 superseded by provisions of subtitle A of this title the applicability of which is stated in terms of a specific date (occurring after December 31, 1953) shall be deemed to be included in subtitle A of this title, but shall be applicable only to the period prior to the taking effect of the corresponding provision of subtitle A.

(D) Effective with respect to taxable years ending after March 31, 1954, and subject to tax under chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939—

(i) Sections 13(b)(3), 26(b)(2)(C), 26(h) (1)(C) (including the comma and the word “and” immediately preceding such section), 26(i)(3), 108(k), 207(a)(1)(C), 207(a)(3)(C), and the last sentence of section 362(b)(3) of such Code are hereby repealed; and

(ii) Sections 13(b)(2), 26(b)(2)(B), 26(h) (1)(B), 26(i)(2), 207(a)(1)(B), 207(a)(3)(B), 421(a)(1)(B), and the second sentence of section 362(b)(3) of such Code are hereby amended by striking out “and before April 1, 1954” (and any accompanying punctuation) wherever appearing therein.

(2) Subtitle B

(A) Chapter 11 of this title shall apply with respect to estates of decedents dying after the date of enactment of this title, and with respect to such estates chapter 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939 is hereby repealed.

(B) Chapter 12 of this title shall apply with respect to the calendar year 1955 and all calendar years thereafter, and with respect to such years chapter 4 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939 is hereby repealed.

(3) Subtitle C

Subtitle C of this title shall apply only with respect to remuneration paid after December 31, 1954, except that chapter 22 of such subtitle shall apply only with respect to remuneration paid after December 31, 1954, which is for services performed after such date. Chapter 9 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939 is hereby repealed with respect to remuneration paid after December 31, 1954, except that subchapter B of