

SUBCHAPTER I—NET INCOME TAXES

§ 381. Imposition of net income tax**(a) Minimum standards**

No State, or political subdivision thereof, shall have power to impose, for any taxable year ending after September 14, 1959, a net income tax on the income derived within such State by any person from interstate commerce if the only business activities within such State by or on behalf of such person during such taxable year are either, or both, of the following:

- (1) the solicitation of orders by such person, or his representative, in such State for sales of tangible personal property, which orders are sent outside the State for approval or rejection, and, if approved, are filled by shipment or delivery from a point outside the State; and
- (2) the solicitation of orders by such person, or his representative, in such State in the name of or for the benefit of a prospective customer of such person, if orders by such customer to such person to enable such customer to fill orders resulting from such solicitation are orders described in paragraph (1).

(b) Domestic corporations; persons domiciled in or residents of a State

The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to the imposition of a net income tax by any State, or political subdivision thereof, with respect to—

- (1) any corporation which is incorporated under the laws of such State; or
- (2) any individual who, under the laws of such State, is domiciled in, or a resident of, such State.

(c) Sales or solicitation of orders for sales by independent contractors

For purposes of subsection (a), a person shall not be considered to have engaged in business activities within a State during any taxable year merely by reason of sales in such State, or the solicitation of orders for sales in such State, of tangible personal property on behalf of such person by one or more independent contractors, or by reason of the maintenance, of an office in such State by one or more independent contractors whose activities on behalf of such person in such State consist solely of making sales, or soliciting orders for sales, or tangible personal property.

(d) Definitions

For purposes of this section—

- (1) the term “independent contractor” means a commission agent, broker, or other independent contractor who is engaged in selling, or soliciting orders for the sale of, tangible personal property for more than one principal and who holds himself out as such in the regular course of his business activities; and
- (2) the term “representative” does not include an independent contractor.

(Pub. L. 86-272, title I, §101, Sept. 14, 1959, 73 Stat. 555.)

STUDY AND REPORT BY CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES OF STATE TAXATION FROM INTERSTATE COMMERCE

Title II of Pub. L. 86-272, as amended by Pub. L. 87-17, Apr. 7, 1961, 75 Stat. 41; Pub. L. 87-435, Apr. 21, 1962, 76

Stat. 55; Pub. L. 88-42, June 21, 1963, 77 Stat. 67; Pub. L. 88-286, Mar. 18, 1964, 78 Stat. 166, and repealed by Pub. L. 94-455, title XXI, §2121(a), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1914, provided for a study by the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the United States Senate, acting separately or jointly, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, of all matters pertaining to the taxation of interstate commerce by the States, territories, and possessions of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any political or taxing subdivision of the foregoing, and for a report together with their proposals for legislation on or before June 30, 1965.

§ 382. Assessment of net income taxes**(a) Limitations**

No State, or political subdivision thereof, shall have power to assess, after September 14, 1959, any net income tax which was imposed by such State or political subdivision, as the case may be, for any taxable year ending on or before such date, on the income derived within such State by any person from interstate commerce, if the imposition of such tax for a taxable year ending after such date is prohibited by section 381 of this title.

(b) Collections

The provisions of subsection (a) shall not be construed—

- (1) to invalidate the collection, on or before September 14, 1959, of any net income tax imposed for a taxable year ending on or before such date, or
- (2) to prohibit the collection, after September 14, 1959, of any net income tax which was assessed on or before such date for a taxable year ending on or before such date.

(Pub. L. 86-272, title I, §102, Sept. 14, 1959, 73 Stat. 556.)

§ 383. “Net income tax” defined

For purposes of this chapter, the term “net income tax” means any tax imposed on, or measured by, net income.

(Pub. L. 86-272, title I, §103, Sept. 14, 1959, 73 Stat. 556.)

§ 384. Separability

If any provision of this chapter or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

(Pub. L. 86-272, title I, §104, Sept. 14, 1959, 73 Stat. 556.)

SUBCHAPTER II—DISCRIMINATORY TAXES

§ 391. Tax on or with respect to generation or transmission of electricity

No State, or political subdivision thereof, may impose or assess a tax on or with respect to the generation or transmission of electricity which discriminates against out-of-State manufacturers, producers, wholesalers, retailers, or consumers of that electricity. For purposes of this