

payment of estate tax where estate consists largely of interest in closely held business) with respect to an estate (or with respect to any property included therein), or

(2) whether the extension of time for payment of tax provided in section 6166(a) has ceased to apply with respect to an estate (or with respect to any property included therein),

upon the filing of an appropriate pleading, the Tax Court may make a declaration with respect to whether such election may be made or whether such extension has ceased to apply. Any such declaration shall have the force and effect of a decision of the Tax Court and shall be reviewable as such.

**(b) Limitations**

**(1) Petitioner**

A pleading may be filed under this section, with respect to any estate, only—

(A) by the executor of such estate, or

(B) by any person who has assumed an obligation to make payments under section 6166 with respect to such estate (but only if each other such person is joined as a party).

**(2) Exhaustion of administrative remedies**

The court shall not issue a declaratory judgment or decree under this section in any proceeding unless it determines that the petitioner has exhausted all available administrative remedies within the Internal Revenue Service. A petitioner shall be deemed to have exhausted its administrative remedies with respect to a failure of the Secretary to make a determination at the expiration of 180 days after the date on which the request for such determination was made if the petitioner has taken, in a timely manner, all reasonable steps to secure such determination.

**(3) Time for bringing action**

If the Secretary sends by certified or registered mail notice of his determination as described in subsection (a) to the petitioner, no proceeding may be initiated under this section unless the pleading is filed before the 91st day after the date of such mailing.

**(c) Extension of time to file refund suit**

The 2-year period in section 6532(a)(1) for filing suit for refund after disallowance of a claim shall be suspended during the 90-day period after the mailing of the notice referred to in subsection (b)(3) and, if a pleading has been filed with the Tax Court under this section, until the decision of the Tax Court has become final.

(Added Pub. L. 105-34, title V, §505(a), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 854; amended Pub. L. 105-206, title III, §3104(b), title VI, §6007(d), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 732, 809.)

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a)(1), (2). Pub. L. 105-206, §6007(d), substituted “an estate (or with respect to any property included therein),” for “an estate.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 105-206, §3104(b), added subsec. (c).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 3104(b) of Pub. L. 105-206 applicable to any claim for refund filed after July 22, 1998,

see section 3104(c) of Pub. L. 105-206, set out as a note under section 7422 of this title.

Amendment by section 6007(d) 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

Pub. L. 105-34, title V, §505(c), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 855, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section] shall apply to the estates of decedents dying after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 5, 1997].”

**Subchapter D—Court Review of Tax Court Decisions**

Sec.

7481.	Date when Tax Court decision becomes final.
7482.	Courts of review.
7483.	Notice of appeal.
7484.	Change of incumbent in office.
7485.	Bond to stay assessment and collection.
7486.	Refund, credit, or abatement of amounts disallowed.
7487.	Cross references.

AMENDMENTS

1969—Pub. L. 91-172, title IX, §§959(b), 960(i)(2), Dec. 30, 1969, 83 Stat. 734, 735, substituted “Notice of appeal” for “Petition for review” in item 7483 and substituted “Cross references” for “Cross reference” in item 7487.

**§ 7481. Date when Tax Court decision becomes final**

**(a) Reviewable decisions**

Except as provided in subsections (b), (c), and (d), the decision of the Tax Court shall become final—

**(1) Timely notice of appeal not filed**

Upon the expiration of the time allowed for filing a notice of appeal, if no such notice has been duly filed within such time; or

**(2) Decision affirmed or appeal dismissed**

**(A) Petition for certiorari not filed on time**

Upon the expiration of the time allowed for filing a petition for certiorari, if the decision of the Tax Court has been affirmed or the appeal dismissed by the United States Court of Appeals and no petition for certiorari has been duly filed; or

**(B) Petition for certiorari denied**

Upon the denial of a petition for certiorari, if the decision of the Tax Court has been affirmed or the appeal dismissed by the United States Court of Appeals; or

**(C) After mandate of Supreme Court**

Upon the expiration of 30 days from the date of issuance of the mandate of the Supreme Court, if such Court directs that the decision of the Tax Court be affirmed or the appeal dismissed.

**(3) Decision modified or reversed**

**(A) Upon mandate of Supreme Court**

If the Supreme Court directs that the decision of the Tax Court be modified or reversed, the decision of the Tax Court rendered in accordance with the mandate of the