

(Added Pub. L. 94-455, title XX, §2009(b)(2), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1893, §2045; renumbered §2046, Pub. L. 97-34, title IV, §403(d)(3)(A)(i), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 304.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to transfers creating an interest in person disclaiming made after Dec. 31, 1976, see section 2009(e)(2) of Pub. L. 94-455, set out as a note under section 2518 of this title.

PART IV—TAXABLE ESTATE

Sec.	
2051.	Definition of taxable estate.
[2052.]	Repealed.]
2053.	Expenses, indebtedness, and taxes.
2054.	Losses.
2055.	Transfers for public, charitable, and religious uses.
2056.	Bequests, etc., to surviving spouse.
2056A.	Qualified domestic trust.
[2057.]	Repealed.]
2058.	State death taxes.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-295, div. A, title II, §221(a)(97)(A), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 4051, which directed amendment of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 11 of this title by striking item 2057 from the table of sections for “such subpart”, was executed by striking item 2057 “Family-owned business interests” from the table of sections for this part, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

2001—Pub. L. 107-16, title V, §532(c)(14), June 7, 2001, 115 Stat. 75, added item 2058.

1998—Pub. L. 105-206, title VI, §6006(b)(1)(F), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 808, added item 2057.

1990—Pub. L. 101-508, title XI, §11704(a)(39), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-520, amended directory language of section 5033(a)(3) of Pub. L. 100-647. See 1988 Amendment note below.

Pub. L. 101-508, title XI, §11704(a)(16), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-518, substituted “trust” for “trusts” in item 2056A.

1989—Pub. L. 101-239, title VII, §7304(a)(2)(E), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2353, struck out item 2057 “Sales of employer securities to employee stock ownership plans or worker-owned cooperatives”.

1988—Pub. L. 100-647, title V, §5033(a)(3), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3672, as amended by Pub. L. 101-508, title XI, §11704(a)(39), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-520, added item 2056A.

1986—Pub. L. 99-514, title XI, §1172(b)(3), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2515, added item 2057.

1981—Pub. L. 97-34, title IV, §427(b), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 318, struck out item 2057 “Bequests, etc., to certain minor children”.

1976—Pub. L. 94-455, title XX, §§2001(c)(1)(N)(iv), 2007(b), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1853, 1890, added item 2057 and struck out item 2052 “Exemption”.

§ 2051. Definition of taxable estate

For purposes of the tax imposed by section 2001, the value of the taxable estate shall be determined by deducting from the value of the gross estate the deductions provided for in this part.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 388; Pub. L. 95-600, title VII, §702(r)(2), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2938.)

AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-600 struck out “exemption and” after “gross estate the”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 95-600, title VII, §702(r)(5), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2939, provided that: “The amendments made by

this subsection [amending this section and sections 1016, 6324B, and 6698A of this title] shall apply to estates of decedents dying after December 31, 1976.”

[§ 2052. Repealed. Pub. L. 94-455, title XX, § 2001(a)(4), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1848]

Section, act Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 389, provided for an exemption of \$60,000 to be deducted from gross estate in determining value of taxable estate.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal applicable to estates of decedents dying after Dec. 31, 1976, see section 2001(d)(1) of Pub. L. 94-455, set out as an Effective Date of 1976 Amendment note under section 2001 of this title.

§ 2053. Expenses, indebtedness, and taxes

(a) General rule

For purposes of the tax imposed by section 2001, the value of the taxable estate shall be determined by deducting from the value of the gross estate such amounts—

- (1) for funeral expenses,
- (2) for administration expenses,
- (3) for claims against the estate, and
- (4) for unpaid mortgages on, or any indebtedness in respect of, property where the value of the decedent's interest therein, undiminished by such mortgage or indebtedness, is included in the value of the gross estate,

as are allowable by the laws of the jurisdiction, whether within or without the United States, under which the estate is being administered.

(b) Other administration expenses

Subject to the limitations in paragraph (1) of subsection (c), there shall be deducted in determining the taxable estate amounts representing expenses incurred in administering property not subject to claims which is included in the gross estate to the same extent such amounts would be allowable as a deduction under subsection (a) if such property were subject to claims, and such amounts are paid before the expiration of the period of limitation for assessment provided in section 6501.

(c) Limitations

(1) Limitations applicable to subsections (a) and (b)

(A) Consideration for claims

The deduction allowed by this section in the case of claims against the estate, unpaid mortgages, or any indebtedness shall, when founded on a promise or agreement, be limited to the extent that they were contracted bona fide and for an adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth; except that in any case in which any such claim is founded on a promise or agreement of the decedent to make a contribution or gift to or for the use of any donee described in section 2055 for the purposes specified therein, the deduction for such claims shall not be so limited, but shall be limited to the extent that it would be allowable as a deduction under section 2055 if such promise or agreement constituted a bequest.

(B) Certain taxes

Any income taxes on income received after the death of the decedent, or property taxes

not accrued before his death, or any estate, succession, legacy, or inheritance taxes, shall not be deductible under this section.

(C) Certain claims by remaindermen

No deduction shall be allowed under this section for a claim against the estate by a remainderman relating to any property described in section 2044.

(D) Section 6166 interest

No deduction shall be allowed under this section for any interest payable under section 6601 on any unpaid portion of the tax imposed by section 2001 for the period during which an extension of time for payment of such tax is in effect under section 6166.

(2) Limitations applicable only to subsection (a)

In the case of the amounts described in subsection (a), there shall be disallowed the amount by which the deductions specified therein exceed the value, at the time of the decedent's death, of property subject to claims, except to the extent that such deductions represent amounts paid before the date prescribed for the filing of the estate tax return. For purposes of this section, the term "property subject to claims" means property includible in the gross estate of the decedent which, or the avails of which, would under the applicable law, bear the burden of the payment of such deductions in the final adjustment and settlement of the estate, except that the value of the property shall be reduced by the amount of the deduction under section 2054 attributable to such property.

(d) Certain foreign death taxes

(1) In general

Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c)(1)(B), for purposes of the tax imposed by section 2001, the value of the taxable estate may be determined, if the executor so elects before the expiration of the period of limitation for assessment provided in section 6501, by deducting from the value of the gross estate the amount (as determined in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary) of any estate, succession, legacy, or inheritance tax imposed by and actually paid to any foreign country, in respect of any property situated within such foreign country and included in the gross estate of a citizen or resident of the United States, upon a transfer by the decedent for public, charitable, or religious uses described in section 2055. The determination under this paragraph of the country within which property is situated shall be made in accordance with the rules applicable under subchapter B (sec. 2101 and following) in determining whether property is situated within or without the United States. Any election under this paragraph shall be exercised in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(2) Condition for allowance of deduction

No deduction shall be allowed under paragraph (1) for a foreign death tax specified therein unless the decrease in the tax imposed

by section 2001 which results from the deduction provided in paragraph (1) will inure solely for the benefit of the public, charitable, or religious transferees described in section 2055 or section 2106(a)(2). In any case where the tax imposed by section 2001 is equitably apportioned among all the transferees of property included in the gross estate, including those described in sections 2055 and 2106(a)(2) (taking into account any exemptions, credits, or deductions allowed by this chapter), in determining such decrease, there shall be disregarded any decrease in the Federal estate tax which any transferees other than those described in sections 2055 and 2106(a)(2) are required to pay.

(3) Effect on credit for foreign death taxes of deduction under this subsection

(A) Election

An election under this subsection shall be deemed a waiver of the right to claim a credit, against the Federal estate tax, under a death tax convention with any foreign country for any tax or portion thereof in respect of which a deduction is taken under this subsection.

(B) Cross reference

See section 2014(f) for the effect of a deduction taken under this paragraph on the credit for foreign death taxes.

(e) Marital rights

For provisions treating certain relinquishments of marital rights as consideration in money or money's worth, see section 2043(b)(2).

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 389; Feb. 20, 1956, ch. 63, §2, 70 Stat. 23; Pub. L. 85-866, title I, §102(c)(3), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1674; Pub. L. 86-175, §1, Aug. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 396; Pub. L. 94-455, title XIX, §§1902(a)(12)(B), 1906(b)(13)(A), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1806, 1834; Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title IV, §425(a)(2), title X, §1027(b), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 804, 1031; Pub. L. 100-647, title I, §1011A(g)(11), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3482; Pub. L. 105-34, title V, §503(b)(1), title X, §1073(b)(3), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 853, 948; Pub. L. 107-16, title V, §532(c)(5), June 7, 2001, 115 Stat. 74; Pub. L. 107-134, title I, §103(b)(2), Jan. 23, 2002, 115 Stat. 2431.)

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (d)(3)(B). Pub. L. 107-134 substituted "section 2011(d)" for "section 2011(e)".

2001—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 107-16 substituted "Certain foreign death taxes" for "Certain State and foreign death taxes" in heading and amended text generally, revising and restating provisions of pars. (1) to (3) so as to eliminate provisions relating to deduction for State death taxes.

1997—Subsec. (c)(1)(B). Pub. L. 105-34, §1073(b)(3), struck out at end "This subparagraph shall not apply to any increase in the tax imposed by this chapter by reason of section 4980A(d)."

Subsec. (c)(1)(D). Pub. L. 105-34, §503(b)(1), added subpar. (D).

1988—Subsec. (c)(1)(B). Pub. L. 100-647, inserted at end "This subparagraph shall not apply to any increase in the tax imposed by this chapter by reason of section 4980A(d)."

1984—Subsec. (c)(1)(C). Pub. L. 98-369, §1027(b), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 98-369, §425(a)(2), substituted "For provisions treating certain relinquishments of marital

rights as consideration in money or money's worth, see section 2043(b)(2)" for "For provisions that relinquishment of marital rights shall not be deemed a consideration 'in money or money's worth,' see section 2043(b)."

1976—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 94-455 struck out "or his delegate" after "Secretary" in provisions preceding subpar. (A) and following subpar. (B) and struck out "or Territory" after "a State" in subpar. (A).

1959—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 86-175 inserted a reference to foreign death taxes in heading of subsection and par. (3) and in text of par. (2), redesignated provisions of par. (1) as par. (1)(A) and sentence pertaining to exercise of privilege of election, added par. (2) and sentence for determining location of property, redesignated provisions of par. (3) as par. (3)(B) in part, and added par. (3)(A) and the part of (B) relating to foreign death taxes.

1958—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 85-866 struck out "or any possession of the United States," after "District of Columbia."

1956—Subsecs. (d), (e). Act Feb. 20, 1956, added subsec. (d) and redesignated former subsec. (d) as (e).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107-134, title I, §103(d), Jan. 23, 2002, 115 Stat. 2431, provided that:

"(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 2011 and 2201 of this title] shall apply to estates of decedents—

"(A) dying on or after September 11, 2001; and

"(B) in the case of individuals dying as a result of the April 19, 1995, terrorist attack, dying on or after April 19, 1995.

"(2) WAIVER OF LIMITATIONS.—If refund or credit of any overpayment of tax resulting from the amendments made by this section is prevented at any time before the close of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 23, 2002] by the operation of any law or rule of law (including res judicata), such refund or credit may nevertheless be made or allowed if claim therefor is filed before the close of such period."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2001 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-16 applicable to estates of decedents dying, and generation-skipping transfers, after Dec. 31, 2004, see section 532(d) of Pub. L. 107-16, set out as a note under section 2012 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 503(b)(1) of Pub. L. 105-34 applicable to estates of decedents dying after Dec. 31, 1997, with special rule in case of estate of any decedent dying before Jan. 1, 1998, with respect to which there is an election under section 6166 of this title, see section 503(d) of Pub. L. 105-34, set out as a note under section 163 of this title.

Amendment by section 1073(b)(3) of Pub. L. 105-34 applicable to estates of decedents dying after Dec. 31, 1996, see section 1073(c) of Pub. L. 105-34, set out as an Effective Date of Repeal note under section 4980A of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-647 effective, except as otherwise provided, as if included in the provision of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-514, to which such amendment relates, see section 1019(a) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 425(a)(2) of Pub. L. 98-369 applicable to estates of decedents dying after July 18, 1984, see section 425(c)(1) of Pub. L. 98-369, set out as a note under section 2043 of this title.

Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title X, §1027(c), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1032, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 2056 of this title] shall take effect as if included in the amend-

ment made by section 403 of the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 [section 403 of Pub. L. 97-34, see Effective Date of 1981 Amendment note set out under section 2056 of this title]."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1902(a)(12)(B) of Pub. L. 94-455 applicable to estates of decedents dying after Oct. 4, 1976, see section 1902(c)(1) of Pub. L. 94-455, set out as a note under section 2012 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1959 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 86-175, §4, Aug. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 397, provided that: "The amendments made by the preceding sections of this Act [amending this section and sections 2011 and 2014 of this title] shall apply with respect to the estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1955."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1958 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 85-866 applicable to estates of decedents dying after Sept. 2, 1958, see section 102(d) of Pub. L. 85-866, set out as a note under section 2014 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1956 AMENDMENT

Act Feb. 20, 1956, ch. 63, §4, 70 Stat. 25, as amended by act Oct. 22, 1986, Pub. L. 99-514, §2, 100 Stat. 2095, provided that: "The amendments to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 [formerly I.R.C. 1954] made by sections 2 and 3 of this Act [amending this section and section 2011 of this title], and provisions having the same effect as this amendment, which shall be considered to be included in chapter 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939, shall apply to the estates of all decedents dying after December 31, 1953."

§ 2054. Losses

For purposes of the tax imposed by section 2001, the value of the taxable estate shall be determined by deducting from the value of the gross estate losses incurred during the settlement of estates arising from fires, storms, shipwrecks, or other casualties, or from theft, when such losses are not compensated for by insurance or otherwise.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 390.)

§ 2055. Transfers for public, charitable, and religious uses

(a) In general

For purposes of the tax imposed by section 2001, the value of the taxable estate shall be determined by deducting from the value of the gross estate the amount of all bequests, legacies, devises, or transfers—

(1) to or for the use of the United States, any State, any political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia, for exclusively public purposes;

(2) to or for the use of any corporation organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, including the encouragement of art, or to foster national or international amateur sports competition (but only if no part of its activities involve the provision of athletic facilities or equipment), and the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private stockholder or individual, which is not disqualified for tax exemption under section 501(c)(3) by reason of attempting to influence legislation, and which does not partici-