

after Dec. 31, 1986, including wages paid after such date by a State (or political subdivision thereof) that modified its agreement pursuant to section 418(e)(2) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, see section 9002(d) of Pub. L. 99-509, set out as an Effective Date of 1986 Amendment note under section 418 of Title 42.

§ 3127. Exemption for employers and their employees where both are members of religious faiths opposed to participation in Social Security Act programs

(a) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter (and under regulations prescribed to carry out this section), in any case where—

(1) an employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, each partner therein) is a member of a recognized religious sect or division thereof described in section 1402(g)(1) and an adherent of established tenets or teachings of such sect or division as described in such section, and has filed and had approved under subsection (b) an application (in such form and manner, and with such official, as may be prescribed by such regulations) for an exemption from the taxes imposed by section 3111, and

(2) an employee of such employer who is also a member of such a religious sect or division and an adherent of its established tenets or teachings has filed and had approved under subsection (b) an identical application for exemption from the taxes imposed by section 3101,

such employer shall be exempt from the taxes imposed by section 3111 with respect to wages paid to each of the employees thereof who meets the requirements of paragraph (2) and each such employee shall be exempt from the taxes imposed by section 3101 with respect to such wages paid to him by such employer.

(b) Approval of application

An application for exemption filed by an employer (or a partner) under subsection (a)(1) or by an employee under subsection (a)(2) shall be approved only if—

(1) such application contains or is accompanied by the evidence described in section 1402(g)(1)(A) and a waiver described in section 1402(g)(1)(B),

(2) the Commissioner of Social Security makes the findings (with respect to such sect or division) described in section 1402(g)(1)(C), (D), and (E), and

(3) no benefit or other payment referred to in section 1402(g)(1)(B) became payable (or, but for section 203 or 222(b)¹ of the Social Security Act, would have become payable) to the individual filing the application at or before the time of such filing.

(c) Effective period of exemption

An exemption granted under this section to any employer with respect to wages paid to any of the employees thereof, or granted to any such employee, shall apply with respect to wages paid by such employer during the period—

(1) commencing with the first day of the first calendar quarter, after the quarter in

which such application is filed, throughout which such employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, each partner therein) or employee meets the applicable requirements specified in subsections (a) and (b), and

(2) ending with the last day of the calendar quarter preceding the first calendar quarter thereafter in which (A) such employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, any partner therein) or the employee involved does not meet the applicable requirements of subsection (a), or (B) the sect or division thereof of which such employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, any partner therein) or employee is a member is found by the Commissioner of Social Security to have ceased to meet the requirements of subsection (b)(2).

(Added Pub. L. 100-647, title VIII, §8007(a)(1), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3781; amended Pub. L. 101-239, title X, §10204(b)(1), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2474; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, §108(h)(3), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1487.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 203 and 222(b) of the Social Security Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), are classified to sections 403 and 422(b), respectively, of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. Section 222(b) was repealed by Pub. L. 106-170, title I, §101(b)(1)(C), Dec. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 1873.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3127 was renumbered section 3128 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsecs. (b)(2), (c)(2). Pub. L. 103-296 substituted “Commissioner of Social Security” for “Secretary of Health and Human Services”.

1989—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(B), substituted “the employees thereof” for “his employees” in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(A), inserted “(or, if the employer is a partnership, each partner therein)” after “an employer”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(C), inserted “(or a partner)” after “an employer” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(D), substituted “the employees thereof” for “his employees” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(E), inserted “(or, if the employer is a partnership, each partner therein)”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 101-239, §10204(b)(1)(F), substituted “such employer (or, if the employer is a partnership, any partner therein) or the employee involved does not meet” for “such employer or the employee involved ceases to meet” in cl. (A) and inserted “(or, if the employer is a partnership, any partner therein)” after “such employer” in cl. (B).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-296 effective Mar. 31, 1995, see section 110(a) of Pub. L. 103-296, set out as a note under section 401 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1989 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-239, title X, §10204(b)(2), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2474, provided that: “The amendments made by this subsection [amending this section] shall be effective as if they were included in the amendments made by section 8007(a)(1) of the Technical and Miscellaneous Revenue Act of 1988 (102 Stat. 3781) [Pub. L. 100-647].”

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to wages paid after Dec. 31, 1988, see section 8007(d) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as an EF-

¹ See References in Text note below.

fective Date of 1988 Amendment note under section 1402 of this title.

§ 3128. Short title

This chapter may be cited as the “Federal Insurance Contributions Act.”

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 429, §3125; renumbered §3126, Pub. L. 86-778, title I, §103(q)(1), Sept. 13, 1960, 74 Stat. 939; renumbered §3127, Pub. L. 99-509, title IX, §9002(a)(1), Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1970; renumbered §3128, Pub. L. 100-647, title VIII, §8007(a)(1), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3781.)

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-509, except as otherwise provided, effective with respect to payments due with respect to wages paid after Dec. 31, 1986, including wages paid after such date by a State (or political subdivision thereof) that modified its agreement pursuant to section 418(e)(2) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, see section 9002(d) of Pub. L. 99-509, set out as a note under section 418 of Title 42.

CHAPTER 22—RAILROAD RETIREMENT TAX ACT

Table with 2 columns: Subchapter and Sec.1. Rows include A. Tax on employees, B. Tax on employee representatives, C. Tax on employers, D. General provisions, E. Tier 2 tax rate determination.

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-90, title II, §204(e)(5), Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 893, added item for subchapter E.

Subchapter A—Tax on Employees

Table with 2 columns: Sec. and description. Rows include 3201. Rate of tax, 3202. Deduction of tax from compensation.

§ 3201. Rate of tax

(a) Tier 1 tax

In addition to other taxes, there is hereby imposed on the income of each employee a tax equal to the applicable percentage of the compensation received during any calendar year by such employee for services rendered by such employee. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term “applicable percentage” means the percentage equal to the sum of the rates of tax in effect under subsections (a) and (b) of section 3101 for the calendar year.

(b) Tier 2 tax

In addition to other taxes, there is hereby imposed on the income of each employee a tax equal to the percentage determined under section 3241 for any calendar year of the compensation received during such calendar year by such employee for services rendered by such employee.

(c) Cross reference

For application of different contribution bases with respect to the taxes imposed by subsections (a) and (b), see section 3231(e)(2).

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 431; Aug. 31, 1954, ch. 1164, pt. II, §206(a), 68 Stat. 1040; Pub. L.

86-28, pt. II, §201(a), May 19, 1959, 73 Stat. 28; Pub. L. 88-133, title II, §201, Oct. 5, 1963, 77 Stat. 221; Pub. L. 89-97, title I, §§105(b)(1), 111(c)(1), July 30, 1965, 79 Stat. 335, 342; Pub. L. 89-212, §§4, 5(a), Sept. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 861; Pub. L. 89-699, title III, §301(a), Oct. 30, 1966, 80 Stat. 1078; Pub. L. 89-700, title III, §301(v), (vi), Oct. 30, 1966, 80 Stat. 1088, 1089; Pub. L. 93-69, title I, §102(a), July 10, 1973, 87 Stat. 162; Pub. L. 94-93, title II, §201, Aug. 9, 1975, 89 Stat. 466; Pub. L. 94-455, title XIX, §1903(a)(6), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1807; Pub. L. 97-34, title VII, §741(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 347; Pub. L. 98-76, title II, §§211(a), 221, Aug. 12, 1983, 97 Stat. 419, 420; Pub. L. 100-203, title IX, §9031(a), Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330-296; Pub. L. 101-508, title V, §5125(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-285; Pub. L. 107-90, title II, §204(c), Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 892; Pub. L. 113-295, div. A, title II, §221(a)(100)(A), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 4052.)

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-295 amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) consisted of pars. (1) and (2) establishing the tier 2 tax and its applicable percentage.

2001—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107-90 amended heading and text of subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “In addition to other taxes, there is hereby imposed on the income of each employee a tax equal to 4.90 percent of the compensation received during any calendar year by such employee for services rendered by such employee.”

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-508 substituted “applicable” for “following” before “percentage of the” and provision defining the term “applicable percentage” for provision specifying that in the case of compensation received during 1985 the rate of tax was 7.05 percent, for 1986 or 1987 the rate was 7.15 percent, for 1988 or 1989 the rate was 7.51 percent, and 1990 or thereafter the rate was 7.65 percent.

1987—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-203 amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: “In addition to other taxes, there is hereby imposed on the income of each employee a tax equal to the following percentage of the compensation received during any calendar year by such employee for services rendered by such employee:

Table with 2 columns: 'In the case of compensation received during:' and 'The rate shall be:'. Rows include 1985 (3.50) and 1986 or thereafter (4.25).

1983—Pub. L. 98-76, §221, amended section generally, substituting a two tiered tax system with accompanying tax rate tables and a cross reference to section 3231 of this title, for provisions which had taxed an employee at 2.75 percent of so much of the compensation paid in any calendar month to such employee for services rendered by him as was not in excess of an amount equal to one-twelfth of the current maximum annual taxable “wages” as defined in section 3121 for any month and which had provided that the rate of tax imposed by subsection (a) be increased by the rate of the tax imposed with respect to wages by section 3101(a) plus the rate imposed by section 3101(b) of so much of the compensation paid in any calendar month to such employee for services rendered by him as was not in excess of an amount equal to one-twelfth of the current maximum annual taxable “wages” as defined in section 3121 for any month.

Pub. L. 98-76, §211(a), substituted “2.75 percent” for “2.0 percent”.

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-34 added subsec. (a). Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 97-34 designated existing provisions as subsec. (b) and substituted “The rate of tax imposed by subsection (a) shall be increased by” for “In

1 Section numbers editorially supplied.