

(b) Copy or list to be retained by tax return preparer

Any person who is a tax return preparer with respect to a return or claim for refund shall, for the period ending 3 years after the close of the return period—

- (1) retain a completed copy of such return or claim, or retain, on a list, the name and taxpayer identification number of the taxpayer for whom such return or claim was prepared, and
- (2) make such copy or list available for inspection upon request by the Secretary.

(c) Regulations

The Secretary shall prescribe regulations under which, in cases where 2 or more persons are tax return preparers with respect to the same return or claim for refund, compliance with the requirements of subsection (a) or (b), as the case may be, of one such person shall be deemed to be compliance with the requirements of such subsection by the other persons.

(d) Definitions

For purposes of this section, the terms “return” and “claim for refund” have the respective meanings given to such terms by section 6696(e), and the term “return period” has the meaning given to such term by section 6060(c).

(Added Pub. L. 94-455, title XII, §1203(c), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1690; amended Pub. L. 110-28, title VIII, §8246(a)(2)(C)(i), May 25, 2007, 121 Stat. 201.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 6107, acts Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 756; Nov. 2, 1966, Pub. L. 89-713, §4(c), 80 Stat. 1110, authorized an alphabetical list of names of all persons who have paid special taxes under subtitle D or E of this title to be kept for public inspection, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 90-618, title II, §203(a), Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1235.

AMENDMENTS

2007—Pub. L. 110-28, §8246(a)(2)(C)(i)(I), substituted “Tax return preparer” for “Income tax return preparer” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-28, §8246(a)(2)(C)(i)(II), substituted “a tax return preparer” for “an income tax return preparer”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-28, §8246(a)(2)(C)(i)(II), (III), substituted “tax return preparer” for “income tax return preparer” in heading and “a tax return preparer” for “an income tax return preparer” in text.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-28, §8246(a)(2)(C)(i)(IV), substituted “tax return preparers” for “income tax return preparers”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2007 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 110-28 applicable to returns prepared after May 25, 2007, see section 8246(c) of Pub. L. 110-28, set out as a note under section 6060 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to documents prepared after Dec. 31, 1976, see section 1203(j) of Pub. L. 94-455, set out as an Effective Date of 1976 Amendment note under section 7701 of this title.

§ 6108. Statistical publications and studies**(a) Publication or other disclosure of statistics of income**

The Secretary shall prepare and publish not less than annually statistics reasonably avail-

able with respect to the operations of the internal revenue laws, including classifications of taxpayers and of income, the amounts claimed or allowed as deductions, exemptions, and credits, and any other facts deemed pertinent and valuable.

(b) Special statistical studies

The Secretary may, upon written request by any party or parties, make special statistical studies and compilations involving return information (as defined in section 6103(b)(2)) and furnish to such party or parties transcripts of any such special statistical study or compilation. A reasonable fee may be prescribed for the cost of the work or services performed for such party or parties.

(c) Anonymous form

No publication or other disclosure of statistics or other information required or authorized by subsection (a) or special statistical study authorized by subsection (b) shall in any manner permit the statistics, study, or any information so published, furnished, or otherwise disclosed to be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer.

(d) Statistical support for National Taxpayer Advocate

Upon request of the National Taxpayer Advocate, the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, provide the National Taxpayer Advocate with statistical support in connection with the preparation by the National Taxpayer Advocate of the annual report described in section 7803(c)(2)(B)(ii). Such statistical support shall include statistical studies, compilations, and the review of information provided by the National Taxpayer Advocate for statistical validity and sound statistical methodology.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 756; Pub. L. 94-455, title XII, §1202(b), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1685; Pub. L. 116-25, title I, §1301(b)(3)(A), July 1, 2019, 133 Stat. 992.)

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 116-25 added subsec. (d).
1976—Pub. L. 94-455 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), struck out “or his delegate” after “Secretary”, inserted “not less than” after “prepare and publish” and “claimed or” after “income, the amounts”, substituted “internal revenue laws” for “income tax laws”, and added subsecs. (b) and (c).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2019 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 116-25, title I, §1301(d), July 1, 2019, 133 Stat. 993, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 7803 of this title] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [July 1, 2019].

“(2) SALARY OF NATIONAL TAXPAYER ADVOCATE.—The amendment made by subsection (c) [amending section 7803 of this title] shall apply to compensation paid to individuals appointed as the National Taxpayer Advocate after March 31, 2019.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 94-455 effective Jan. 1, 1977, see section 1202(i) of Pub. L. 94-455, set out as a note under section 6103 of this title.

§ 6109. Identifying numbers**(a) Supplying of identifying numbers**

When required by regulations prescribed by the Secretary:

(1) Inclusion in returns

Any person required under the authority of this title to make a return, statement, or other document shall include in such return, statement, or other document such identifying number as may be prescribed for securing proper identification of such person.

(2) Furnishing number to other persons

Any person with respect to whom a return, statement, or other document is required under the authority of this title to be made by another person or whose identifying number is required to be shown on a return of another person shall furnish to such other person such identifying number as may be prescribed for securing his proper identification.

(3) Furnishing number of another person

Any person required under the authority of this title to make a return, statement, or other document with respect to another person shall request from such other person, and shall include in any such return, statement, or other document, such identifying number as may be prescribed for securing proper identification of such other person.

(4) Furnishing identifying number of tax return preparer

Any return or claim for refund prepared by a tax return preparer shall bear such identifying number for securing proper identification of such preparer, his employer, or both, as may be prescribed. For purposes of this paragraph, the terms “return” and “claim for refund” have the respective meanings given to such terms by section 6696(e).

For purposes of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), the identifying number of an individual (or his estate) shall be such individual’s social security account number.

(b) Limitation

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a return of any person with respect to his liability for tax, or any statement or other document in support thereof, shall not be considered for purposes of paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) as a return, statement, or other document with respect to another person.

(2) For purposes of paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a), a return of an estate or trust with respect to its liability for tax, and any statement or other document in support thereof, shall be considered as a return, statement, or other document with respect to each beneficiary of such estate or trust.

(c) Requirement of information

For purposes of this section, the Secretary is authorized to require such information as may be necessary to assign an identifying number to any person.

(d) Use of social security account number

The social security account number issued to an individual for purposes of section 205(c)(2)(A)

of the Social Security Act shall, except as shall otherwise be specified under regulations of the Secretary, be used as the identifying number for such individual for purposes of this title.

[(e) **Repealed. Pub. L. 104-188, title I, § 1615(a)(2)(A), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1853]**

(f) Access to employer identification numbers by Secretary of Agriculture for purposes of Food and Nutrition Act of 2008**(1) In general**

In the administration of section 9 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2018) involving the determination of the qualifications of applicants under such Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may, subject to this subsection, require each applicant retail store or wholesale food concern to furnish to the Secretary of Agriculture the employer identification number assigned to the store or concern pursuant to this section. The Secretary of Agriculture shall not have access to any such number for any purpose other than the establishment and maintenance of a list of the names and employer identification numbers of the stores and concerns for use in determining those applicants who have been previously sanctioned or convicted under section 12 or 15 of such Act (7 U.S.C. 2021 or 2024).

(2) Sharing of information and safeguards**(A) Sharing of information**

The Secretary of Agriculture may share any information contained in any list referred to in paragraph (1) with any other agency or instrumentality of the United States which otherwise has access to employer identification numbers in accordance with this section or other applicable Federal law, except that the Secretary of Agriculture may share such information only to the extent that such Secretary determines such sharing would assist in verifying and matching such information against information maintained by such other agency or instrumentality. Any such information shared pursuant to this subparagraph may be used by such other agency or instrumentality only for the purpose of effective administration and enforcement of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 or for the purpose of investigation of violations of other Federal laws or enforcement of such laws.

(B) Safeguards

The Secretary of Agriculture, and the head of any other agency or instrumentality referred to in subparagraph (A), shall restrict, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury, access to employer identification numbers obtained pursuant to this subsection only to officers and employees of the United States whose duties or responsibilities require access for the purposes described in subparagraph (A). The Secretary of Agriculture, and the head of any agency or instrumentality with which information is shared pursuant to subparagraph (A), shall provide such other safeguards as the Secretary of the Treasury determines to be necessary or appropriate to protect the con-