

made by subsection (a) for any period prior to the expiration of the one hundred and eightieth day following the date of the enactment of this Act.”

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1969 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-172 effective Jan. 1, 1970, see section 101(k)(1) of Pub. L. 91-172, set out as an Effective Date note under section 4940 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1966 AMENDMENT**

Pub. L. 89-365, §2(c), Mar. 8, 1966, 80 Stat. 33, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to decedents dying after December 31, 1965. The amendments made by subsection (b) [amending section 2517 of this title] shall apply with respect to calendar years after 1965.”

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1962 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 87-792 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1962, see section 8 of Pub. L. 87-792, set out as a note under section 22 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1958 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by section 23(e) of Pub. L. 85-866 applicable with respect to estates of decedents dying after Dec. 31, 1957, see section 23(g) of Pub. L. 85-866, set out as a note under section 403 of this title.

Pub. L. 85-866, title I, §67(b), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1659, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to estates of decedents dying after December 31, 1953.”

**PLAN AMENDMENTS NOT REQUIRED UNTIL  
JANUARY 1, 1989**

For provisions directing that if any amendments made by subtitle A or subtitle C of title XI [§§1101-1147 and 1171-1177] or title XVIII [§§1800-1899A] of Pub. L. 99-514 require an amendment to any plan, such plan amendment shall not be required to be made before the first plan year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 1989, see section 1140 of Pub. L. 99-514, as amended, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

**§ 2040. Joint interests**

**(a) General rule**

The value of the gross estate shall include the value of all property to the extent of the interest therein held as joint tenants with right of survivorship by the decedent and any other person, or as tenants by the entirety by the decedent and spouse, or deposited, with any person carrying on the banking business, in their joint names and payable to either or the survivor, except such part thereof as may be shown to have originally belonged to such other person and never to have been received or acquired by the latter from the decedent for less than an adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth: *Provided*, That where such property or any part thereof, or part of the consideration with which such property was acquired, is shown to have been at any time acquired by such other person from the decedent for less than an adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth, there shall be excepted only such part of the value of such property as is proportionate to the consideration furnished by such other person: *Provided further*, That where any property has been acquired by gift, bequest, devise, or inheritance, as a tenancy by the entirety by the decedent and spouse, then to the extent of one-half of the value thereof, or, where

so acquired by the decedent and any other person as joint tenants with right of survivorship and their interests are not otherwise specified or fixed by law, then to the extent of the value of a fractional part to be determined by dividing the value of the property by the number of joint tenants with right of survivorship.

**(b) Certain joint interests of husband and wife**

**(1) Interests of spouse excluded from gross estate**

Notwithstanding subsection (a), in the case of any qualified joint interest, the value included in the gross estate with respect to such interest by reason of this section is one-half of the value of such qualified joint interest.

**(2) Qualified joint interest defined**

For purposes of paragraph (1), the term “qualified joint interest” means any interest in property held by the decedent and the decedent's spouse as—

(A) tenants by the entirety, or

(B) joint tenants with right of survivorship, but only if the decedent and the spouse of the decedent are the only joint tenants.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 385; Pub. L. 87-834, §18(a)(2)(G), Oct. 16, 1962, 76 Stat. 1052; Pub. L. 94-455, title XX, §2002(c)(1), (3), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1855, 1856; Pub. L. 95-600, title V, §511(a), title VII, §702(k)(2), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2881, 2932; Pub. L. 96-222, title I, §105(a)(3), Apr. 1, 1980, 94 Stat. 218; Pub. L. 97-34, title IV, §403(c)(1)-(3)(A), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 301, 302.)

**Editorial Notes**

**AMENDMENTS**

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-34, §403(c)(2), substituted “joint tenants with right of survivorship” for “joint tenants” in three places.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 97-34, §403(c)(1), in redefining “qualified joint interest” substituted provision defining term as meaning any interest in property held by the decedent and the decedent's spouse as tenants by the entirety, or joint tenants with right of survivorship, but only if the decedent and the spouse of the decedent are the only joint tenants for provision defining the term as meaning any interest in property held by the decedent and the decedent's spouse as joint tenants or as tenants by the entirety, but only if such joint interest was created by the decedent, the decedent's spouse, or both, in the case of personal property, the creation of such joint interest constituted in whole or in part a gift for purposes of chapter 12, or in the case of real property, an election under section 2515 applies with respect to the creation of such joint interest, and in the case of a joint tenancy, only the decedent and the decedent's spouse are joint tenants.

Subsecs. (c) to (e). Pub. L. 97-34, §403(c)(3)(A), repealed subsec. (c) respecting value where spouse of decedent materially participated in farm or other business, subsec. (d) relating to joint interests of husband and wife created before 1977, and subsec. (e) covering treatment of certain post-1976 terminations.

1980—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 96-222, §105(a)(3)(B), substituted “subsection (a)” for “subsections (a)”.

Subsec. (c)(2)(C). Pub. L. 96-222, §105(a)(3)(A), added subpar. (C).

1978—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-600, §511(a), added subsec. (c).

Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 95-600, §702(k)(2), added subsecs. (d) and (e).

1976—Pub. L. 94-455 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), added heading for subsec. (a), and added subsec. (b).

1962—Pub. L. 87-834 struck out provisions which exempted real property outside of the United States.

### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-34 applicable to estates of decedents dying after Dec. 31, 1981, see section 403(e) of Pub. L. 97-34, set out as a note under section 2056 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-222 effective, except as otherwise provided, as if it had been included in the provisions of the Revenue Act of 1978, Pub. L. 95-600, to which such amendment relates, see section 201 of Pub. L. 96-222, set out as a note under section 32 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 95-600, title V, § 511(b), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2882, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to estates of decedents dying after December 31, 1978."

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 94-455, title XX, § 2002(d)(3), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1856, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (c) [amending this section and section 2515 of this title] shall apply to joint interests created after December 31, 1976."

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1962 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 87-834 applicable to estates of decedents dying after Oct. 16, 1962, except as otherwise provided, see section 18(b) of Pub. L. 87-834, set out as a note under section 2031 of this title.

#### CONSIDERATION GIVEN BEFORE JULY 14, 1988 BY DECEDENT TO NONCITIZEN SPOUSE TREATED AS ORIGINALLY BELONGING TO SPOUSE

Pub. L. 101-239, title VII, § 7815(d)(16), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2419, as amended by Pub. L. 101-508, title XI, § 11701(l)(3), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-513, provided that: "For purposes of applying section 2040(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to any joint interest to which section 2040(b) of such Code does not apply solely by reason of section 2056(d)(1)(B) of such Code, any consideration furnished before July 14, 1988, by the decedent for such interest to the extent treated as a gift to the spouse of the decedent for purposes of chapter 12 of such Code (or would have been so treated if the donor were a citizen of the United States) shall be treated as consideration originally belonging to such spouse and never acquired by such spouse from the decedent."

## § 2041. Powers of appointment

### (a) In general

The value of the gross estate shall include the value of all property—

#### (1) Powers of appointment created on or before October 21, 1942

To the extent of any property with respect to which a general power of appointment created on or before October 21, 1942, is exercised by the decedent—

(A) by will, or

(B) by a disposition which is of such nature that if it were a transfer of property owned by the decedent, such property would be includible in the decedent's gross estate under sections 2035 to 2038, inclusive;

but the failure to exercise such a power or the complete release of such a power shall not be

deemed an exercise thereof. If a general power of appointment created on or before October 21, 1942, has been partially released so that it is no longer a general power of appointment, the exercise of such power shall not be deemed to be the exercise of a general power of appointment if—

(i) such partial release occurred before November 1, 1951, or

(ii) the donee of such power was under a legal disability to release such power on October 21, 1942, and such partial release occurred not later than 6 months after the termination of such legal disability.

#### (2) Powers created after October 21, 1942

To the extent of any property with respect to which the decedent has at the time of his death a general power of appointment created after October 21, 1942, or with respect to which the decedent has at any time exercised or released such a power of appointment by a disposition which is of such nature that if it were a transfer of property owned by the decedent, such property would be includible in the decedent's gross estate under sections 2035 to 2038, inclusive. For purposes of this paragraph (2), the power of appointment shall be considered to exist on the date of the decedent's death even though the exercise of the power is subject to a precedent giving of notice or even though the exercise of the power takes effect only on the expiration of a stated period after its exercise, whether or not on or before the date of the decedent's death notice has been given or the power has been exercised.

#### (3) Creation of another power in certain cases

To the extent of any property with respect to which the decedent—

(A) by will, or

(B) by a disposition which is of such nature that if it were a transfer of property owned by the decedent such property would be includible in the decedent's gross estate under section 2035, 2036, or 2037,

exercises a power of appointment created after October 21, 1942, by creating another power of appointment which under the applicable local law can be validly exercised so as to postpone the vesting of any estate or interest in such property, or suspend the absolute ownership or power of alienation of such property, for a period ascertainable without regard to the date of the creation of the first power.

### (b) Definitions

For purposes of subsection (a)—

#### (1) General power of appointment

The term "general power of appointment" means a power which is exercisable in favor of the decedent, his estate, his creditors, or the creditors of his estate; except that—

(A) A power to consume, invade, or appropriate property for the benefit of the decedent which is limited by an ascertainable standard relating to the health, education, support, or maintenance of the decedent shall not be deemed a general power of appointment.

(B) A power of appointment created on or before October 21, 1942, which is exercisable