

# UNITED STATES STATUTES AT LARGE

CONTAINING THE

LAWS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

ENACTED DURING THE THIRD SESSION OF THE

SEVENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1938

AND

TREATIES, INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS OTHER

THAN TREATIES, AND PROCLAMATIONS

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[CHAPTER 285]

**AN ACT**

To amend the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first paragraph of section 1 of the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 31, sec. 752), is amended by striking out the following: " Provided, That the face amount of bonds issued under this section and section 22 of this Act shall not exceed in the aggregate \$25,000,000,000 outstanding at any one time".*

SEC. 2. Section 21 of the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 31, sec. 757b), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 21. The face amount of bonds, certificates of indebtedness, Treasury bills, and notes issued under the authority of this Act, and certificates of indebtedness issued under the authority of section 6 of the First Liberty Bond Act, shall not exceed in the aggregate \$45,000,000,000 outstanding at any one time: *Provided*, That the face amount of bonds issued under the authority of this Act shall not exceed in the aggregate \$30,000,000,000 outstanding at any one time."

Approved, May 26, 1938.

[CHAPTER 288]

**AN ACT**

To equalize certain allowances for quarters and subsistence of enlisted men of the Coast Guard with those of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act approved June 20, 1936 (49 Stat. 1545; U. S. C., Supp. III, title 34, sec. 914), is hereby amended, effective as of June 20, 1936, by inserting in line 15 thereof, after the word "Navy", the words "Coast Guard", and by inserting in line 17 thereof, after the words "Marine Corps Band", the words "Coast Guard Academy Band".*

Approved, May 26, 1938.

[CHAPTER 289]

**AN ACT**

**To provide revenue, equalize taxation, and for other purposes.**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act, divided into titles and sections according to the following Table or Contents, may be cited as the "Revenue Act of 1938":*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS****TITLE I—INCOME TAX****SUBTITLE A—INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS**

- Sec. 1. Application of title.
- Sec. 2. Cross references.
- Sec. 3. Classification of provisions.
- Sec. 4. Special classes of taxpayers.

(b) JOINT FIDUCIARIES.—Under such regulations as the Commissioner with the approval of the Secretary may prescribe a return made by one of two or more joint fiduciaries and filed in the office of the collector of the district where such fiduciary resides shall be sufficient compliance with the above requirement. Such fiduciary shall make oath (1) that he has sufficient knowledge of the affairs of the individual, estate, or trust for which the return is made, to enable him to make the return, and (2) that the return is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, true and correct.

(c) LAW APPLICABLE TO FIDUCIARIES.—Any fiduciary required to make a return under this title shall be subject to all the provisions of law which apply to individuals.

### **SEC. 143. WITHHOLDING OF TAX AT SOURCE.**

(a) TAX-FREE COVENANT BONDS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT OF WITHHOLDING.—In any case where bonds, mortgages, or deeds of trust, or other similar obligations of a corporation, issued before January 1, 1934, contain a contract or provision by which the obligor agrees to pay any portion of the tax imposed by this title upon the obligee, or to reimburse the obligee for any portion of the tax, or to pay the interest without deduction for any tax which the obligor may be required or permitted to pay thereon, or to retain therefrom under any law of the United States, the obligor shall deduct and withhold a tax equal to 2 per centum of the interest upon such bonds, mortgages, deeds of trust, or other obligations, whether such interest is payable annually or at shorter or longer periods, if payable to an individual, a partnership, or a foreign corporation not engaged in trade or business within the United States and not having any office or place of business therein: *Provided*, That if the liability assumed by the obligor does not exceed 2 per centum of the interest, then the deduction and withholding shall be at the following rates: (A) 10 per centum in the case of a nonresident alien individual (except that such rate shall be reduced, in the case of a resident of a contiguous country, to such rate, not less than 5 per centum, as may be provided by treaty with such country), or of any partnership not engaged in trade or business within the United States and not having any office or place of business therein and composed in whole or in part of nonresident aliens, (B) in the case of such a foreign corporation, 15 per centum, and (C) 2 per centum in the case of other individuals and partnerships: *Provided further*, That if the owners of such obligations are not known to the withholding agent the Commissioner may authorize such deduction and withholding to be at the rate of 2 per centum, or, if the liability assumed by the obligor does not exceed 2 per centum of the interest, then at the rate of 10 per centum.

(2) BENEFIT OF CREDITS AGAINST NET INCOME.—Such deduction and withholding shall not be required in the case of a citizen or resident entitled to receive such interests, if he files with the withholding agent on or before February 1 a signed notice in writing claiming the benefit of the credits provided in section 25 (b); nor in the case of a nonresident alien individual if so provided for in regulations prescribed by the Commissioner under section 215.

(3) INCOME OF OBLIGOR AND OBLIGEE.—The obligor shall not be allowed a deduction for the payment of the tax imposed by this title, or any other tax paid pursuant to the tax-free covenant clause, nor shall such tax be included in the gross income of the obligee.

(b) **NONRESIDENT ALIENS.**—All persons, in whatever capacity acting, including lessees or mortgagors of real or personal property, fiduciaries, employers, and all officers and employees of the United States, having the control, receipt, custody, disposal, or payment of interest (except interest on deposits with persons carrying on the banking business paid to persons not engaged in business in the United States and not having an office or place of business therein), dividends, rent, **salaries, wages,** premiums, annuities, compensations, remunerations, emoluments, or other fixed or determinable annual or periodical gains, profits, and income (but only to the extent that any of the above items constitutes gross income from sources within the United States), of **any nonresident alien individual,** or of any partnership not engaged in trade or business within the United States and not having any office or place of business therein and composed **in whole or in part of nonresident aliens, shall** (except in the cases provided for in subsection (a) of this section and except as otherwise provided in regulations prescribed by the Commissioner under section 215) **deduct and withhold** from such annual or periodical gains, profits, and income a tax equal to 10 per centum thereof, except that such rate shall be reduced, in the case of a nonresident alien individual a resident of a contiguous country, to such rate (not less than 5 per centum) as may be provided by treaty with such country: *Provided,* That no such deduction or withholding shall be required in the case of dividends paid by a foreign corporation unless (1) such corporation is engaged in trade or business within the United States or has an office or place of business therein, and (2) more than 85 per centum of the gross income of such corporation for the three-year period ending with the close of its taxable year preceding the declaration of such dividends (or for such part of such period as the corporation has been in existence) was derived from sources within the United States as determined under the provisions of section 119: *Provided further,* That the Commissioner may authorize such tax to be deducted and withheld from the interest upon any securities the owners of which are not known to the withholding agent. Under regulations prescribed by the Commissioner, with the approval of the Secretary, there may be exempted from such deduction and withholding the compensation for personal services of nonresident alien individuals who enter and leave the United States at frequent intervals.

(c) **RETURN AND PAYMENT.**—Every person required to deduct and withhold any tax under this section shall make return thereof on or before March 15 of each year and shall on or before June 15, in lieu of the time prescribed in section 56, pay the tax to the official of the United States Government authorized to receive it. Every such person **is hereby made liable** for such tax and is hereby indemnified against the claims and demands of any person for the amount of any payments made in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(d) **INCOME OF RECIPIENT.**—Income upon which any tax is required to be withheld at the source under this section shall be included in the return of the recipient of such income, but any amount of tax so withheld shall be credited against the amount of income tax as computed in such return.

(e) **TAX PAID BY RECIPIENT.**—If any tax required under this section to be deducted and withheld is paid by the recipient of the income, it shall not be re-collected from the withholding agent; nor in cases in which the tax is so paid shall any penalty be imposed upon or collected from the recipient of the income or the withholding agent for failure to return or pay the same, unless such failure was fraudulent and for the purpose of evading payment.

(f) REFUNDS AND CREDITS.—Where there has been an overpayment of tax under this section any refund or credit made under the provisions of section 322 shall be made to the withholding agent unless the amount of such tax was actually withheld by the withholding agent.

#### **SEC. 144. PAYMENT OF CORPORATION INCOME TAX AT SOURCE.**

In the case of foreign corporations subject to taxation under this title not engaged in trade or business within the United States and not having any office or place of business therein, there shall be deducted and withheld at the source in the same manner and upon the same items of income as is provided in section 143 a tax equal to 15 per centum thereof, except that in the case of dividends the rate shall be 10 per centum, and except that in the case of corporations organized under the laws of a contiguous country such rate of 10 per centum with respect to dividends shall be reduced to such rate (not less than 5 per centum) as may be provided by treaty with such country; and such tax shall be returned and paid in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as provided in that section: *Provided*, That in the case of interest described in subsection (a) of that section (relating to tax-free covenant bonds) the deduction and withholding shall be at the rate specified in such subsection.

#### **SEC. 145. PENALTIES.**

(a) Any person required under this title to pay any tax, or required by law or regulations made under authority thereof to make a return, keep any records, or supply any information, for the purposes of the computation, assessment, or collection of any tax imposed by this title, who willfully fails to pay such tax, make such return, keep such records, or supply such information, at the time or times required by law or regulations, shall, in addition to other penalties provided by law, be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$10,000, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, together with the costs of prosecution.

(b) Any person required under this title to collect, account for, and pay over any tax imposed by this title, who willfully fails to collect or truthfully account for and pay over such tax, and any person who willfully attempts in any manner to evade or defeat any tax imposed by this title or the payment thereof, shall, in addition to other penalties provided by law, be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$10,000, or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both, together with the costs of prosecution.

(c) The term "person" as used in this section includes an officer or employee of a corporation or a member or employee of a partnership, who as such officer, employee, or member is under a duty to perform the act in respect of which the violation occurs.

(d) For penalties for failure to file information returns with respect to foreign personal holding companies and foreign corporations, see section 340.

#### **SEC. 146. CLOSING BY COMMISSIONER OF TAXABLE YEAR.**

(a) TAX IN JEOPARDY.—

(1) DEPARTURE OF TAXPAYER OR REMOVAL OF PROPERTY FROM UNITED STATES.—If the Commissioner finds that a taxpayer designs quickly to depart from the United States or to remove