

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1279

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the active business definition under section 355.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2001

Mr. BREAUX introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the active business definition under section 355.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. MODIFICATION OF ACTIVE BUSINESS DEFINI-**
4 **TION UNDER SECTION 355.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 355(b) of the Internal
6 Revenue Code of 1986 (defining active conduct of a trade
7 or business) is amended by adding at the end the following
8 new paragraph:

9 “(3) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO ACTIVE
10 BUSINESS REQUIREMENT.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of deter-
 2 mining whether a corporation meets the re-
 3 quirement of paragraph (2)(A), all members of
 4 such corporation’s separate affiliated group
 5 shall be treated as one corporation. For pur-
 6 poses of the preceding sentence, a corporation’s
 7 separate affiliated group is the affiliated group
 8 which would be determined under section
 9 1504(a) if such corporation were the common
 10 parent and section 1504(b) did not apply.

11 “(B) CONTROL.—For purposes of para-
 12 graph (2)(D), all distributee corporations which
 13 are members of the same affiliated group (as
 14 defined in section 1504(a) without regard to
 15 section 1504(b)) shall be treated as one dis-
 16 tributee corporation.”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

18 (1) Subparagraph (A) of section 355(b)(2) of
 19 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to
 20 read as follows:

21 “(A) it is engaged in the active conduct of
 22 a trade or business,”.

23 (2) Section 355(b)(2) of such Code is amended
 24 by striking the last sentence.

25 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply to distributions after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (2) TRANSITION RULE.—The amendments
5 made by this section shall not apply to any distribu-
6 tion pursuant to a transaction which is—

7 (A) made pursuant to an agreement which
8 was binding on such date and at all times
9 thereafter,

10 (B) described in a ruling request submitted
11 to the Internal Revenue Service on or before
12 such date, or

13 (C) described on or before such date in a
14 public announcement or in a filing with the Se-
15 curities and Exchange Commission.

16 (3) ELECTION TO HAVE AMENDMENTS
17 APPLY.—Paragraph (2) shall not apply if the dis-
18 tributing corporation elects not to have such para-
19 graph apply to distributions of such corporation.
20 Any such election, once made, shall be irrevocable.

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