Tax and Revenue Provisions of the PATH Act

For additional information, please <u>click here</u>.

Permanent Extensions. The following tax provisions are extended indefinitely:

- Modification of research and development tax credit
- Modification of increased expensing limitations and treatment of certain real property as section 179 property
- Modification of employer wage credit for employees who are active duty members of the uniformed services
- 15-year straight-line cost recovery for qualified leasehold improvements, qualified restaurant buildings and improvements, and qualified retail improvements
- Treatment of certain dividends of regulated investment companies
- Exclusion of 100 percent of gain on certain small business stock
- Reduction in S-corporation recognition period for built-in gains tax
- Subpart F exception for active financing income
- Earned Income Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- American Opportunity Tax Credit
- Modified deduction for certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers
- Parity for exclusion from income for employer-provided mass transit and parking benefits
- Deduction of state and local general sales taxes
- Incentives for charitable giving, including:
 - o Modification of special rule for contributions of capital gain real property made for conservation purposes
 - o Tax-free distributions from individual retirement plans for charitable purposes
 - o Modification of charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory
 - Modification of tax treatment of certain payments to controlling exempt organizations
 - Basis adjustment to stock of S-corporations making charitable contributions of property
- Incentives for real estate investment
 - Temporary minimum low-income housing tax credit rates for non-federally subsidized buildings
 - o Military housing allowance exclusion for determining whether a tenant in certain counties is low-income
 - o RIC qualified investment entity treatment under Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act (FIRPTA)

Extensions Through 2019. The following provisions are extended through December 31, 2019:

- New markets tax credit
- Modification of work opportunity tax credit
- Modification of bonus depreciation
- Look-through treatment of payments between related controlled foreign corporations under foreign personal holding company rules

Extensions Through 2016. The following expired tax provisions are extended temporarily through December 31, 2016:

- Modification of exclusion from gross income of discharge of qualified principal residence indebtedness
- Mortgage insurance premiums treated as qualified residence interest
- Above-the-line deduction for qualified tuition and related expenses
- Indian employment tax credit
- Modification of railroad track maintenance credit
- Mine rescue team training credit
- Qualified zone academy bonds
- Classification of certain race horses as three-year property
- Seven-year recovery period for motorsports entertainment complexes
- Modification of accelerated depreciation for business property on an Indian reservation
- Election to expense mine safety equipment
- Special expensing rules for certain film and television productions
- Deduction allowable with respect to income attributable to domestic production activities in Puerto Rico
- Modification of empowerment zone tax incentives
- Temporary increase in limit on cover over of rum excise taxes to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands
- American Samoa economic development credit
- Modification of credit for nonbusiness energy property
- Credit for alternative fuel vehicle refueling property
- Credit for two-wheeled plug-in electric vehicles
- Second generation biofuel producer credit
- Biodiesel and renewable diesel incentives
- Modification of production credit for Indian coal facilities
- Modification of credits with respect to facilities producing energy from certain renewable resources
- Credit for energy-efficient new homes

- Special allowance for second generation biofuel plant property
- Energy efficient commercial buildings deduction
- Special rule for sales or dispositions to implement Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) or state electric restructuring policy for qualified electric utilities
- Excise tax credits relating to alternative fuels, including compressed natural gas and liquefied natural gas
- Credit for new qualified fuel cell motor vehicles

REIT. The PATH Act includes new provisions pertaining to real estate investment trusts (REITs), some of which are aimed at limiting the ability of companies to spin-off their holdings into new entities that are effectively tax exempt.

Miscellaneous. The PATH Act also includes the following provisions:

- Improvements to section 529 accounts
- Elimination of residency requirement for qualified Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) programs
- Exclusion for wrongfully incarcerated individuals
- Clarification of special rule for certain governmental plans
- Rollovers permitted from other retirement plans into simple retirement accounts
- Technical amendment relating to rollover of certain airline payment amounts
- The provision clarifying the effective dates of Public Law 113-243 to allow certain airline employees to contribute amounts received in certain bankruptcies to an IRA without being subject to the annual contribution limit
- Treatment of early retirement distributions for nuclear materials couriers, United States Capitol Police, Supreme Court Police and diplomatic security special agents
- Prevention of extension of tax collection period for members of the Armed Forces who are hospitalized as a result of combat zone injuries
- Deductibility of charitable contributions to agricultural research organizations
- Removal of bond requirements and extending filing periods for certain taxpayers with limited excise tax liability
- Modifications to alternative tax for certain small insurance companies
- Treatment of timber gains
- Modification of definition of hard cider
- Church Plan Clarification

Tax Administration. The PATH Act includes reforms to the IRS, some of which are a response to the allegations of targeting certain tax-exempt political-groups. The IRS reform provisions would also establish a streamlined recognition process for political organizations seeking 501(c)(4) tax-exempt status. Additional provisions would make reforms to the administration of the U.S. Tax Court.

Revenue Provisions

- Updated ASHRAE standards for energy efficient commercial buildings deduction to reflect new standards of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers beginning in 2016
- Excise tax credit equivalency for liquefied petroleum gas and liquefied natural gas
- Exclusion from gross income of certain clean coal power grants to non-corporate taxpayers
- Clarification of valuation rule for early termination of certain charitable remainder unitrusts
- Prevention of transfer of certain losses from tax indifferent parties by modifying the related-party loss rules
- Treatment of certain persons as employers with respect to motion picture projects