
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1961 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY RABB, DEAN, PASHINSKI AND THOMAS,
DECEMBER 11, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, DECEMBER 11, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), entitled "An
2 act relating to tax reform and State taxation by codifying
3 and enumerating certain subjects of taxation and imposing
4 taxes thereon; providing procedures for the payment,
5 collection, administration and enforcement thereof; providing
6 for tax credits in certain cases; conferring powers and
7 imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, certain
8 employers, fiduciaries, individuals, persons, corporations
9 and other entities; prescribing crimes, offenses and
10 penalties," in personal income tax, further providing for
11 imposition of tax and for amount of withholding tax.

12 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

13 (1) Section 1 of Article VIII of the Constitution of
14 Pennsylvania requires that all taxes be uniform upon the same
15 class of subjects.

16 (2) The Constitution of Pennsylvania allows the General
17 Assembly to impose nonuniform tax rates as long as the tax
18 rates are imposed uniformly on each class of subjects.

19 (3) Upon identifying legitimate distinctions among
20 various classes of subjects, the General Assembly can impose
21 a different tax rate on each class of subjects in compliance
22 with constitutional standards.

1 (4) This act establishes different classes of subjects
2 and imposes different tax rates on each class.

3 (5) The Constitution of Pennsylvania makes it clear that
4 the imposition of different tax rates complies with section 1
5 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Pennsylvania insofar
6 as those tax rates are uniform on each class.

7 (6) This act does not violate section 1 of Article VIII
8 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania by imposing different tax
9 rates on different classes of subjects because the uniformity
10 clause prohibition on disparate tax rates is not implicated
11 when uniformity of taxation is maintained within each class.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. Sections 302 and 324.1(a) of the act of March 4,
15 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, are
16 amended to read:

17 Section 302. Imposition of Tax.--(a) [Every] For tax years
18 beginning after December 31, 2003, and ending on December 31,
19 2017, every resident individual, estate or trust shall be
20 subject to, and shall pay for the privilege of receiving each of
21 the classes of income hereinafter enumerated in section 303, a
22 tax upon each dollar of income received by that resident during
23 that resident's taxable year at the rate of three and seven
24 hundredths per cent.

25 (b) [Every] For tax years beginning after December 31, 2003,
26 and ending on December 31, 2017, every nonresident individual,
27 estate or trust shall be subject to, and shall pay for the
28 privilege of receiving each of the classes of income hereinafter
29 enumerated in section 303 from sources within this Commonwealth,
30 a tax upon each dollar of income received by that nonresident

1 during that nonresident's taxable year at the rate of three and
2 seven hundredths per cent.

3 (c) For tax years beginning after December 31, 2017, every
4 resident individual, estate or trust shall be subject to and
5 shall pay a tax upon each dollar of income received by that
6 resident during that resident's taxable year at the rate of two
7 and eight-tenths per cent for the privilege of receiving the
8 following classes of income as enumerated in section 303:

9 (1) Compensation.

10 (2) Interest derived from obligations which are not
11 statutorily free from State or local taxation under any other
12 act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 or under the laws of the United States, any amount paid under
14 contract of life insurance or endowment or annuity contract
15 which is includable in gross income for Federal income tax
16 purposes and any amount paid out of the Archer Medical Savings
17 Account (Archer MSA) or health savings account that is
18 includable in the gross income of an account beneficiary for
19 Federal income tax purposes.

20 (d) For tax years beginning after December 31, 2017, every
21 resident individual, estate or trust shall be subject to, and
22 shall pay a tax upon each dollar of income received by that
23 resident during that resident's taxable year at the rate of six
24 and five-tenths per cent for the privilege of receiving the
25 following classes of income as enumerated in section 303:

26 (1) Net profits.

27 (2) Net gains or income from disposition of property.

28 (3) Net gains or income derived from or in the form of
29 rents, royalties, patents and copyrights.

30 (4) Dividends.

1 (5) Gambling and lottery winnings other than noncash prizes
2 of the Pennsylvania State Lottery.

3 (6) Net gains or income derived through estates or trusts.
4 To the extent that income or gain is subject to tax under one of
5 the classes of income enumerated in this section such income or
6 gain shall not be subject to tax under another of such
7 enumerated classes.

8 (e) For tax years beginning after December 31, 2017, every
9 nonresident individual, estate or trust shall be subject to, and
10 shall pay a tax upon each dollar of income received by that
11 nonresident during that nonresident's taxable year at the rate
12 of two and eight-tenths per cent for the privilege of receiving
13 the following classes of income as enumerated in section 303:

14 (1) Compensation.

15 (2) Interest derived from obligations which are not
16 statutorily free from State or local taxation under any other
17 act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
18 or under the laws of the United States, any amount paid under
19 contract of life insurance or endowment or annuity contract
20 which is includable in gross income for Federal income tax
21 purposes and any amount paid out of the Archer Medical Savings
22 Account (Archer MSA) or health savings account that is
23 includable in the gross income of an account beneficiary for
24 Federal income tax purposes.

25 (f) For tax years beginning after December 31, 2017, every
26 nonresident individual, estate or trust shall be subject to and
27 shall pay a tax upon each dollar of income received by that
28 nonresident during that nonresident's taxable year at the rate
29 of six and five-tenths per cent for the privilege of receiving
30 the following classes of income as enumerated in section 303:

- 1 (1) Net profits.
2 (2) Net gains or income from disposition of property.
3 (3) Net gains or income derived from or in the form of
4 rents, royalties, patents and copyrights.
5 (4) Dividends.
6 (5) Gambling and lottery winnings other than noncash prizes
7 of the Pennsylvania State Lottery.
8 (6) Net gains or income derived through estates or trusts.
9 To the extent that income or gain is subject to tax under one of
10 the classes of income enumerated in this section such income or
11 gain shall not be subject to tax under another of such
12 enumerated classes.

13 Section 324.1. Amount of Withholding Tax.--(a) The amount
14 of tax withheld from nonresidents and the amount of the
15 withholding tax payable under section 324 shall be equal to the
16 income from sources within this Commonwealth of the partnership,
17 association or Pennsylvania S corporation which is allocable to
18 nonresident partners, members or shareholders multiplied by the
19 tax rate specified in section [302(b)] 302(f).

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21 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.