

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4705

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a nonrefundable credit for the purchase of emergency position-indicating radio beacons and personal locator beacons.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2016

Mr. MURPHY of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a nonrefundable credit for the purchase of emergency position-indicating radio beacons and personal locator beacons.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Austin and Perry Safe
5 Boating Incentive Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CREDIT FOR LOCATOR BEACONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part IV of sub-
3 chapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of
4 1986 is amended at the end of the following new section:

5 **“SEC. 25E. LOCATOR BEACONS.**

6 “(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—In the case of an in-
7 dividual, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax
8 imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount
9 equal to 50 percent of the sum of the amount paid or ac-
10 crued for—

11 “(1) a qualified emergency position-indicating
12 radio beacon, and

13 “(2) a qualified personal locator beacon.

14 “(b) LIMITATIONS.—

15 “(1) ANNUAL LIMIT.—The amount allowed as a
16 credit for any taxable year under subsection (a) shall
17 not exceed \$200.

18 “(2) LIFETIME LIMIT.—The aggregate amount
19 allowed as a credit for all taxable years under sub-
20 section (a) shall not exceed the excess of—

21 “(A) \$500, reduced (but not below zero)

22 by

23 “(B) the aggregate amount allowed as a
24 credit under subsection (a) to the taxpayer for
25 all prior taxable years.

1 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this sec-
2 tion—

3 “(1) QUALIFIED EMERGENCY POSITION-INDI-
4 CATING RADIO BEACON.—The term ‘qualified emer-
5 gency position-indicating radio beacon’ means a de-
6 vice installed on an eligible boat that—

7 “(A) transmits distress signals at a fre-
8 quency between 406.0 and 406.1 MHz,

9 “(B) is manufactured by a company ap-
10 proved to manufacture beacons by the Inter-
11 national Cospas-Sarsat Programme, and

12 “(C) is registered with the United States
13 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
14 tion.

15 “(2) QUALIFIED PERSONAL LOCATOR BEA-
16 CON.—The term ‘qualified personal locator beacon’
17 means a device designed to be carried by an indi-
18 vidual that—

19 “(A) transmits distress signals at a fre-
20 quency between 406.0 and 406.1 MHz,

21 “(B) is manufactured by a company ap-
22 proved to manufacture beacons by the Inter-
23 national Cospas-Sarsat Programme,

1 “(C) is registered with the United States
2 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
3 tion, and

4 “(D) is acquired for use in boating activi-
5 ties by the taxpayer who owns or operates an
6 eligible boat.

7 “(3) ELIGIBLE BOATS.—The term ‘eligible
8 boat’ means—

9 “(A) any recreational vessel (as defined in
10 section 2101 of title 46, United States Code),

11 “(B) any small passenger vessel (as de-
12 fined in section 2101 of title 46, United States
13 Code) carrying not more than 250 passengers,
14 and

15 “(C) any uninspected passenger vessel (as
16 defined in section 2101 of title 46, United
17 States Code).

18 “(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe
19 such regulations or other guidance as may be necessary
20 to carry out this section, including regulations relating to
21 the installation of a qualified emergency position-indi-
22 cating radio beacon on an eligible boat.”.

23 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
24 for subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1

1 of such Code is amended at the end of the following new
2 item:

“Sec. 25E. Locator beacons.”.

3 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
4 this section shall apply to emergency position-indicating
5 radio beacons installed, and personal locator beacons pur-
6 chased, after December 31, 2015.

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