

INCOME TAX ACT OF 1967 (EXCERPT)
Act 281 of 1967

CHAPTER 10

206.601 Meanings of terms; other provisions.

Sec. 601. A term used in this part and not defined differently shall have the same meaning as when used in comparable context in the laws of the United States relating to federal income taxes in effect for the tax year unless a different meaning is clearly required. A reference in this part to the internal revenue code includes other provisions of the laws of the United States relating to federal income taxes.

History: Add. 2011, Act 38, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012.

206.603 Definitions; A, B.

Sec. 603. (1) "Affiliated group" means that term as defined in section 1504 of the internal revenue code except that it shall include all United States persons that are corporations, insurance companies, or financial institutions, other than a foreign operating entity, that are commonly owned, directly or indirectly, by any member of such affiliated group and other members of which more than 50% of the ownership interests with voting rights or ownership interests that confer comparable rights to voting rights of the member is directly or indirectly owned by a common owner or owners.

(2) "Business activity" means a transfer of legal or equitable title to or rental of property, whether real, personal, or mixed, tangible or intangible, or the performance of services, or a combination thereof, made or engaged in, or caused to be made or engaged in, whether in intrastate, interstate, or foreign commerce, with the object of gain, benefit, or advantage, whether direct or indirect, to the taxpayer or to others, but does not include the services rendered by an employee to his or her employer or services as a director of a corporation. Although an activity of a taxpayer may be incidental to another or to others of his or her business activities, each activity shall be considered to be business engaged in within the meaning of this part.

(3) "Business income" means federal taxable income. For a tax-exempt taxpayer, business income means only that part of federal taxable income derived from unrelated business activity.

History: Add. 2011, Act 38, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2011, Act 173, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 266, Imd. Eff. Dec. 30, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 266 of 2013 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act is effective for tax years that begin after December 31, 2012."

206.605 Definitions; C to E.

Sec. 605. (1) "Corporation" means a person that is required or has elected to file as a C corporation as defined under section 1361(a)(2) and section 7701(a)(3) of the internal revenue code. Corporation does not include an insurance company or a financial institution.

(2) "Department" means the department of treasury.

(3) "Employee" means an employee as defined in section 3401(c) of the internal revenue code. A person from whom an employer is required to withhold for federal income tax purposes is prima facie considered an employee.

(4) "Employer" means an employer as defined in section 3401(d) of the internal revenue code. A person required to withhold for federal income tax purposes is prima facie considered an employer.

History: Add. 2011, Act 38, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2011, Act 179, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2011, Act 307, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012.

206.607 Definitions; F to M.

Sec. 607. (1) "Federal taxable income" means taxable income as defined in section 63 of the internal revenue code, except that federal taxable income shall be calculated as if section 168(k) and section 199 of the internal revenue code were not in effect.

(2) "Flow-through entity" means an entity that for the applicable tax year is treated as a subchapter S corporation under section 1362(a) of the internal revenue code, a general partnership, a trust, a limited partnership, a limited liability partnership, or a limited liability company, that for the tax year is not taxed as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. Flow-through entity does not include any entity disregarded or treated as a corporation under section 699.

(3) "Foreign operating entity" means a United States corporation that satisfies each of the following:

(a) Would otherwise be a part of a unitary business group that has at least 1 corporation included in the unitary business group that is taxable in this state.

(b) Has substantial operations outside the United States, the District of Columbia, any territory or possession of the United States except for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a political subdivision of any of the foregoing.

(c) At least 80% of its income is active foreign business income as defined in section 871(l)(1)(B)(ii) of the internal revenue code.

(4) "Gross receipts" means the entire amount received by the taxpayer from any activity whether in intrastate, interstate, or foreign commerce carried on for direct or indirect gain, benefit, or advantage to the taxpayer or to others except for the following:

(a) Proceeds from sales by a principal that the taxpayer collects in an agency capacity solely on behalf of the principal and delivers to the principal.

(b) Amounts received by the taxpayer as an agent solely on behalf of the principal that are expended by the taxpayer for any of the following:

(i) The performance of a service by a third party for the benefit of the principal that is required by law to be performed by a licensed person.

(ii) The performance of a service by a third party for the benefit of the principal that the taxpayer has not undertaken a contractual duty to perform.

(iii) Principal and interest under a mortgage loan or land contract, lease or rental payments, or taxes, utilities, or insurance premiums relating to real or personal property owned or leased by the principal.

(iv) A capital asset of a type that is, or under the internal revenue code will become, eligible for depreciation, amortization, or accelerated cost recovery by the principal for federal income tax purposes, or for real property owned or leased by the principal.

(v) Property not described under subparagraph (iv) purchased by the taxpayer on behalf of the principal and that the taxpayer does not take title to or use in the course of performing its contractual business activities.

(vi) Fees, taxes, assessments, levies, fines, penalties, or other payments established by law that are paid to a governmental entity and that are the legal obligation of the principal.

(c) Amounts that are excluded from gross income of a foreign corporation engaged in the international operation of aircraft under section 883(a) of the internal revenue code.

(d) Amounts received by an advertising agency used to acquire advertising media time, space, production, or talent on behalf of another person.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, amounts received by a taxpayer that manages real property owned by the taxpayer's client that are deposited into a separate account kept in the name of the taxpayer's client and that are not reimbursements to the taxpayer and are not indirect payments for management services that the taxpayer provides to that client.

(f) Proceeds from the taxpayer's transfer of an account receivable if the sale that generated the account receivable was included in gross receipts for federal income tax purposes. This subdivision does not apply to a taxpayer that during the tax year both buys and sells any receivables.

(g) Proceeds from any of the following:

(i) The original issue of stock or equity instruments.

(ii) The original issue of debt instruments.

(h) Refunds from returned merchandise.

(i) Cash and in-kind discounts.

(j) Trade discounts.

(k) Federal, state, or local tax refunds.

(l) Security deposits.

(m) Payment of the principal portion of loans.

(n) Value of property received in a like-kind exchange.

(o) Proceeds from a sale, transaction, exchange, involuntary conversion, or other disposition of tangible, intangible, or real property that is a capital asset as defined in section 1221(a) of the internal revenue code or land that qualifies as property used in the trade or business as defined in section 1231(b) of the internal revenue code, less any gain from the disposition to the extent that gain is included in federal taxable income.

(p) The proceeds from a policy of insurance, a settlement of a claim, or a judgment in a civil action less any proceeds under this subdivision that are included in federal taxable income.

(5) "Insurance company" means an authorized insurer as defined in section 108 of the insurance code of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.108. Insurance company does not include a health maintenance organization authorized under chapter 35 of the insurance code of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.3501 to 500.3573.

(6) "Internal revenue code" means the United States internal revenue code of 1986 in effect on January 1, 2018 or, at the option of the taxpayer, in effect for the tax year.

(7) "Member", when used in reference to a flow-through entity, means a shareholder of a subchapter S corporation, a partner in a general partnership, a limited partnership, or a limited liability partnership, a member of a limited liability company, or a beneficiary of a trust that is a flow-through entity.

History: Add. 2011, Act 38, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2011, Act 182, Imd. Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2011, Act 306, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 32, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2018;—Am. 2018, Act 38, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2018;—Am. 2024, Act 177, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2024.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 32 of 2018 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act is retroactive and effective for tax years that begin on and after January 1, 2016."

206.609 Definitions; P to S.

Sec. 609. (1) "Person" means an individual, bank, financial institution, insurance company, association, corporation, flow-through entity, receiver, estate, trust, or any other group or combination of groups acting as a unit.

(2) "Professional employer organization" means an organization, other than an organization whose business activities are included in industry group 736 under the standard industrial classification code as compiled by the United States department of labor, that provides the management and administration of the human resources of another entity by contractually assuming substantial employer rights and responsibilities through a professional employer agreement that establishes an employer relationship with the leased officers or employees assigned to the other entity by doing all of the following:

(a) Maintaining a right of direction and control of employees' work, although this responsibility may be shared with the other entity.

(b) Paying wages and employment taxes of the employees out of its own accounts.

(c) Reporting, collecting, and depositing state and federal employment taxes for the employees.

(d) Retaining a right to hire and fire employees.

(3) "Revenue mile" means the transportation for a consideration of 1 net ton in weight or 1 passenger the distance of 1 mile.

(4) "Sale" or "sales" means, except as provided in subdivision (e), the amounts received by the taxpayer as consideration from the following:

(a) The transfer of title to, or possession of, property that is stock in trade or other property of a kind that would properly be included in the inventory of the taxpayer if on hand at the close of the tax period or property held by the taxpayer primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of the taxpayer's trade or business. For intangible property, the amounts received shall be limited to any gain received from the disposition of that property.

(b) The performance of services that constitute business activities.

(c) The rental, lease, licensing, or use of tangible or intangible property, including interest that constitutes business activity.

(d) Any combination of business activities described in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c).

(e) For taxpayers not engaged in any other business activities, sales include interest, dividends, and other income from investment assets and activities and from trading assets and activities.

(5) "Shareholder" means a person who owns outstanding stock in a corporation or is a member of a business entity that files as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. An individual is considered as the owner of the stock, or the equity interest in a business entity that files as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, owned, directly or indirectly, by or for family members as defined by section 318(a)(1) of the internal revenue code.

(6) "State" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any territory or possession of the United States, and any foreign country, or a political subdivision of any of the foregoing.

History: Add. 2011, Act 38, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2011, Act 176, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012.

206.611 Definitions; T to U.

Sec. 611. (1) "Tangible personal property" means that term as defined in section 2 of the use tax act, 1937 PA 94, MCL 205.92.

(2) "Tax" means the tax imposed under this part, including interest and penalties under this part, unless the term is given a more limited meaning in the context of this part or a provision of this part.

(3) "Tax-exempt person" means an organization that is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the internal revenue code, except the following:

(a) An organization exempt under section 501(c)(12) or (16) of the internal revenue code.

(b) An organization exempt under section 501(c)(4) of the internal revenue code that would be exempt under section 501(c)(12) of the internal revenue code but for its failure to meet the requirement in section 501(c)(12) that 85% or more of its income must consist of amounts collected from members.

(4) "Tax year" means the calendar year, or the fiscal year ending during the calendar year, upon the basis

of which the tax base of a taxpayer is computed under this part. If a return is made for a fractional part of a year, tax year means the period for which the return is made. Except for the first return required by this part, a taxpayer's tax year is for the same period as is covered by its federal income tax return. A taxpayer that has a 52- or 53-week tax year beginning not more than 7 days before the end of any month is considered to have a tax year beginning on the first day of the subsequent month. A person included in a unitary business group that joins or departs the unitary business group other than at the end of that person's federal tax year shall have a tax year beginning with its federal income tax period and ending on the date of joining or departing the unitary business group, and another tax year beginning on the date immediately after joining or departing the unitary business group and ending with its federal income tax period. If the term tax year in this part is used in reference to 1 or more previous or preceding tax years and those referenced tax years are before January 1, 2012, then those referenced tax years are deemed those same tax years during which former 1975 PA 228 or the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1101 to 208.1601, applied.

(5) "Taxpayer" means a corporation, insurance company, financial institution, or unitary business group, whichever is applicable under each chapter, that is liable for a tax, interest, or penalty under this part. For purposes of chapters 11 and 14, taxpayer does not include an insurance company or a financial institution. For purposes of chapter 12, unless specifically included in the section, taxpayer does not include a corporation or a financial institution. For purposes of chapter 13, taxpayer does not include a corporation or an insurance company.

(6) "Unitary business group" means a group of United States persons that are corporations, insurance companies, or financial institutions, other than a foreign operating entity, 1 of which owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the ownership interest with voting rights or ownership interests that confer comparable rights to voting rights of the other members, and that has business activities or operations which result in a flow of value between or among members included in the unitary business group or has business activities or operations that are integrated with, are dependent upon, or contribute to each other. Unitary business group includes an affiliated group that makes the election to be treated, and to file, as a unitary business group under section 691(2).

(7) "United States person" means that term as defined in section 7701(a)(30) of the internal revenue code.

(8) "Unrelated business activity" means, for a tax-exempt person, business activity directly connected with an unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the internal revenue code.

History: Add. 2011, Act 38, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2011, Act 170, Eff. Jan. 1, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 266, Imd. Eff. Dec. 30, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 266 of 2013 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act is effective for tax years that begin after December 31, 2012."