

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3333

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce by 50 percent certain tax benefits allowable to profitable large corporations which make certain workforce reductions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 1996

Ms. MCKINNEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on International Relations, and Banking and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce by 50 percent certain tax benefits allowable to profitable large corporations which make certain workforce reductions.

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 “Corporate Welfare Re-
5 duction and Job Preservation Act of 1996”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Corporations are subject to a tax rate of up
4 to 34 percent or 35 percent.

5 (2) Due to tax deductions, exclusions, and cred-
6 its, the net tax liability actually paid by many cor-
7 porations is far below the real rate. In fact, certain
8 special-interest tax deductions and expenditures pro-
9 vide corporations with an extra \$70,000,000,000 per
10 year. Additionally, direct Government subsidies to
11 corporations will amount to \$30,000,000,000 per
12 year.

13 (3) Over the past several years, one of the most
14 serious problems affecting the middle-class has been
15 corporate downsizing. Many large, wealthy, and
16 profitable corporations have reduced the number of
17 their American employees by transferring those jobs
18 to foreign countries or have reduced the number of
19 their employees in order to realize an immediate
20 short-term profit or increase in stock value.

21 (4) Between April 3, 1975, and January 31,
22 1996, the relocation of manufacturing operations re-
23 sulted in over 4,500,000 workers seeking adjustment
24 assistance for workers under chapter 2 of title II of
25 the Trade Act of 1974. Because many displaced

1 workers did not seek assistance, this figure is far
2 below the actual number of workers displaced.

3 (5) A higher priority should be given to preserv-
4 ing American jobs and adding fairness to the Fed-
5 eral tax system by closing loopholes and eliminating
6 unnecessary expenditures, thus providing additional
7 funds to assist in balancing the Federal budget by
8 2002 while maintaining Medicare and Medicaid at
9 acceptable levels.

10 **SEC. 3. REDUCTION OF TAX BENEFITS FOR PROFITABLE**
11 **LARGE CORPORATIONS WHICH REDUCE**
12 **WORKFORCE.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter C of chapter 1 of the
14 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to corporate dis-
15 tributions and adjustments) is amended by adding at the
16 end the following new part:

17 **“PART VII—REDUCTION OF TAX BENEFITS FOR**
18 **PROFITABLE LARGE CORPORATIONS WHICH**
19 **REDUCE WORKFORCE**

“Sec. 386. Reduction of tax benefits for profitable large corpora-
tions which reduce workforce.

20 **“SEC. 386. REDUCTION OF TAX BENEFITS FOR PROFITABLE**
21 **LARGE CORPORATIONS WHICH REDUCE**
22 **WORKFORCE.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For any taxable year, if any
24 profitable large corporation reduces by 15 percent or more

1 the number of employees who perform any task or func-
2 tion at any facility in the United States, the amount of
3 each facility-related tax benefit shall be reduced by 50 per-
4 cent.

5 “(b) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For pur-
6 poses of this section—

7 “(1) FACILITY-RELATED TAX BENEFIT.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘facility-re-
9 lated tax benefit’ means—

10 “(i) any tax benefit to the extent at-
11 tributable to a facility described in sub-
12 section (a), or

13 “(ii) to the extent that a tax benefit
14 is not attributable to any facility, a pro
15 rata portion of such tax benefit (as deter-
16 mined under regulations prescribed by the
17 Secretary).

18 “(B) EXCEPTION.—Such term shall not in-
19 clude—

20 “(i) any deduction under section 127
21 or 129 or any other deduction for the cost
22 of employee health care, child care, job
23 training, or retraining, or

24 “(ii) any other tax benefit (other than
25 wages) which the Secretary determines by

1 regulation to be a tax benefit for costs in-
2 curred primarily for the benefit of employ-
3 ees rather than the employer.

4 “(2) LARGE CORPORATION.—The term ‘large
5 corporation’ means a corporation or partnership
6 which is not a small-business concern (within the
7 meaning of section 3 of the Small Business Act, as
8 in effect on the date of the enactment of this sec-
9 tion).

10 “(3) PROFITABLE.—Any large corporation shall
11 be treated as profitable, for any taxable year, if the
12 sum of taxable income (if any) for the 5-taxable-year
13 period ending with the preceding taxable year (or, if
14 shorter, the period consisting of all preceding taxable
15 years of such large corporation) equals or exceeds
16 the sum of the net operating losses (if any) attrib-
17 utable to such period.

18 “(4) RELATED PERSONS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—All related persons
20 shall be treated as one person.

21 “(B) RELATED PERSONS DEFINED.—The
22 term ‘related persons’ means—

23 “(i) persons bearing a relationship de-
24 scribed in section 267 or 707(b), and

1 “(ii) persons treated as a single em-
2 ployer under subsection (a) or (b) of sec-
3 tion 52.

4 “(5) TAX BENEFIT.—The term ‘tax benefit’
5 means a credit, deduction, or exclusion allowable
6 under this title.”

7 (b) TRANSMISSION OF DATA BY SECRETARY OF
8 LABOR.—The Secretary of Labor shall transmit to the
9 Secretary of the Treasury, not less than annually, a list
10 of corporations and partnerships described in section
11 386(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added
12 by this section).

13 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of parts for
14 subchapter C of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by
15 adding at the end the following new item:

“Part VII. Reduction of tax benefits for profitable large corpora-
tions which reduce workforce.”

16 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amend-
17 ments made by this section shall apply to taxable years
18 beginning after December 31, 1996.

1 **SEC. 4. ACCELERATION OF LOANS MADE BY CERTAIN GOV-**
2 **ERNMENT ENTITIES AS PENALTY AGAINST**
3 **PROFITABLE LARGE CORPORATIONS WHICH**
4 **REDUCE WORKFORCE.**

5 (a) OPIC LOANS.—Section 235 of the Foreign As-
6 sistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2195) is amended by add-
7 ing at the end the following:

8 “(g) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO PROFITABLE
9 LARGE CORPORATIONS THAT REDUCE WORKFORCE.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a facility-related tax ben-
11 efit of an entity for a taxable year is reduced by rea-
12 son of section 386(a) of the Internal Revenue Code
13 of 1986, then—

14 “(A) the entity shall immediately repay to
15 the Corporation the amount of any loan made
16 by the Corporation to the entity under section
17 234;

18 “(B) any insurance policy provided by the
19 Corporation to the entity under such section is
20 rescinded; and

21 “(C) until the Secretary of the Treasury
22 determines that the activity on the basis of
23 which the facility-related tax benefit of the en-
24 tity was so reduced has ceased, the Corporation
25 may not, during the immediately succeeding
26 taxable year of the entity, extend credit, partici-

1 pate in an extension of credit, or provide any
2 insurance, directly to the entity under such sec-
3 tion.

4 “(2) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO REPAY LOAN.—
5 Interest shall accrue on any amount required by
6 paragraph (1)(A) to be repaid to the Corporation at
7 a rate of 10 percent per month.”.

8 (b) EXPORT-IMPORT BANK LOANS.—Section 2 of the
9 Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635) is
10 amended by adding at the end the following:

11 “(f) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO PROFITABLE
12 LARGE CORPORATIONS THAT REDUCE WORKFORCE.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a facility-related tax ben-
14 efit of an entity for a taxable year is reduced by rea-
15 son of section 386(a) of the Internal Revenue Code
16 of 1986, then—

17 “(A) the entity shall immediately repay to
18 the Bank the amount of any loan made by the
19 Bank to the entity;

20 “(B) any insurance policy provided by the
21 Bank to the entity is rescinded; and

22 “(C) until the Secretary of the Treasury
23 determines that the activity on the basis of
24 which the facility-related tax benefit of the en-
25 tity was so reduced has ceased, the Bank may

1 not, during the immediately succeeding taxable
2 year of the entity, extend credit, participate in
3 an extension of credit, or provide any insurance,
4 directly to the entity.

5 “(2) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO REPAY LOAN.—
6 Interest shall accrue on any amount required by
7 paragraph (1)(A) to be repaid to the Bank at a rate
8 of 10 percent per month.”.

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