

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1820

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion from gross income for employer-provided health coverage for employees' spouses and dependent children to coverage provided to other eligible designated beneficiaries of employees.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2007

Mr. McDERMOTT 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 extend the exclusion from gross income for employer-provided health coverage for employees' spouses and dependent children to coverage provided to other eligible designated beneficiaries of employees.

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 "Tax Equity for Health
5 Plan Beneficiaries Act of 2007".

1 **SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF ACCIDENT AND HEALTH PLANS**
2 **TO ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES.**

3 (a) **EXCLUSION OF CONTRIBUTIONS.**—Section 106 of
4 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to contribu-
5 tions by employer to accident and health plans) is amend-
6 ed by adding at the end the following new subsection:

7 “(f) **COVERAGE PROVIDED FOR ELIGIBLE BENE-**
8 **FICIARIES OF EMPLOYEES.**—

9 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subsection (a) shall apply
10 with respect to an eligible beneficiary and any quali-
11 fying child who is a dependent of the eligible bene-
12 ficiary.

13 “(2) **QUALIFYING CHILD; DEPENDENT.**—For
14 purposes of this subsection—

15 “(A) **QUALIFYING CHILD.**—The term
16 ‘qualifying child’ has the meaning given such
17 term by section 152(c).

18 “(B) **DEPENDENT.**—The term ‘dependent’
19 has the meaning given such term by section
20 105(b).”.

21 (b) **EXCLUSION OF AMOUNTS EXPENDED FOR MED-**
22 **ICAL CARE.**—The first sentence of section 105(b) of such
23 Code (relating to amounts expended for medical care) is
24 amended by inserting before the period the following: “and
25 eligible beneficiary and the qualifying children of the eligi-

1 ble beneficiary (within the meaning of section 106(f)) with
2 respect to the taxpayer”.

3 (c) PAYROLL TAXES.—

4 (1) Section 3121(a)(2) of such Code is amend-
5 ed—

6 (A) by inserting “, or his eligible bene-
7 ficiary or any qualifying children of the eligible
8 beneficiary,” after “his dependents” both places
9 it appears,

10 (B) by inserting “, and eligible bene-
11 ficiaries and qualifying children of eligible bene-
12 ficiaries (within the meaning of section
13 106(f)),” after “their dependents” the first
14 place it appears, and

15 (C) by inserting “, eligible beneficiaries,
16 and qualifying children of eligible beneficiaries”
17 after “their dependents” the second place it ap-
18 pears.

19 (2) Section 3231(e)(1) of such Code is amend-
20 ed—

21 (A) by inserting “, or his eligible bene-
22 ficiary or any qualifying children of his eligible
23 beneficiary,” after “his dependents”,

24 (B) by inserting “, and eligible bene-
25 ficiaries and qualifying children of eligible bene-

1 beneficiaries (within the meaning of section
2 106(f)),” after “their dependents” the first
3 place it appears, and

4 (C) by inserting “, eligible beneficiaries,
5 and qualifying children of eligible beneficiaries”
6 after “their dependents” the second place it ap-
7 pears.

8 (3) Section 3306(b)(2) of such Code is amend-
9 ed—

10 (A) by inserting “, or his eligible bene-
11 ficiary or any qualifying children of his eligible
12 beneficiary,” after “his dependents” both places
13 it appears,

14 (B) by inserting “, and eligible bene-
15 ficiaries and qualifying children of eligible bene-
16 ficiaries (within the meaning of section
17 106(f)),” after “their dependents” the first
18 place it appears, and

19 (C) by inserting “, eligible beneficiaries,
20 and qualifying children of eligible beneficiaries”
21 after “their dependents” the second place it ap-
22 pears.

23 (4) Section 3401(a) of such Code is amended
24 by striking “or” at the end of paragraph (21), by
25 striking the period at the end of paragraph (22) and

1 inserting “; or”, and by inserting after paragraph
2 (22) the following new paragraph:

3 “(23) for any payment made to or for the ben-
4 efit of an employee or his eligible beneficiary or any
5 qualifying children of his eligible beneficiary (within
6 the meaning of section 106(f)) if at the time of such
7 payment it is reasonable to believe that the employee
8 will be able to exclude such payment from income
9 under section 106(f) or under section 105 by ref-
10 erence in section 105(b) to section 106(f);”.

11 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
12 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
13 December 31, 2006.

14 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF DEPENDENCY FOR PURPOSES OF**
15 **DEDUCTION FOR HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS**
16 **OF SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (l) of section 162 of
18 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to special
19 rules for health insurance costs of self-employed individ-
20 uals) is amended by adding at the end the following new
21 paragraph:

22 “(6) DEPENDENTS.—For purposes of this sub-
23 section, the term ‘dependents’ shall include the fol-
24 lowing with respect to the taxpayer—

1 sentence: “For purposes of providing for the payment of
2 sick and accident benefits to members of such an associa-
3 tion and their dependents, the term ‘dependents’ shall in-
4 clude any individual who is an eligible beneficiary, or
5 qualified child of an eligible beneficiary, as determined
6 under the terms of a medical benefit, health insurance,
7 or other program under which members and their depend-
8 ents are entitled to sick and accident benefits.”.

9 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
10 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
11 December 31, 2006.

12 **SEC. 5. FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENTS AND HEALTH**
13 **REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENTS.**

14 The Secretary of Treasury shall issue guidance of
15 general applicability providing that medical expenses that
16 otherwise qualify—

17 (1) for reimbursement from a flexible spending
18 arrangement under regulations in effect on the date
19 of the enactment of this Act may be reimbursed
20 from an employee’s flexible spending arrangement,
21 notwithstanding the fact that such expenses are at-
22 tributable to an individual who is the employee’s eli-
23 gible beneficiary under any accident or health plan
24 of the employer, and

1 (2) for reimbursement from a health reimburse-
2 ment arrangement under regulations in effect on the
3 date of the enactment of this Act may be reimbursed
4 from an employee's health reimbursement arrange-
5 ment, notwithstanding the fact that such expenses
6 are attributable to an individual who is not a spouse
7 or dependent within the meaning of section 152 but
8 who is designated by the employee as eligible to have
9 his or her expenses reimbursed under the health re-
10 imbursement arrangement.

○