

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1843

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## AN ACT

To amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from carrying out seizures relating to a structuring transaction unless the property to be seized derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another criminal law or regulation, to require notice and a post-seizure hearing for such seizures, and for other purposes.

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 “Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers  
5 RESPECT Act” or the “Restraining Excessive Seizure of  
6 Property through the Exploitation of Civil Asset For-  
7 feiture Tools Act”.

8 **SEC. 2. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE SEIZURE REQUIRE-**  
9                    **MENTS WITH RESPECT TO STRUCTURING**  
10                    **TRANSACTIONS.**

11        Section 5317(c)(2) of title 31, United States Code,  
12 is amended—

13            (1) by striking “Any property” and inserting  
14        the following:

15                    “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any property”; and

16            (2) by adding at the end the following:

17                    “(B) INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE SEI-  
18                    ZURE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO  
19                    STRUCTURING TRANSACTIONS.—

20                    “(i) PROPERTY DERIVED FROM AN IL-  
21                    LEGAL SOURCE.—Property may only be  
22                    seized by the Internal Revenue Service  
23                    pursuant to subparagraph (A) by reason of  
24                    a claimed violation of section 5324 if the  
25                    property to be seized was derived from an

1 illegal source or the funds were structured  
2 for the purpose of concealing the violation  
3 of a criminal law or regulation other than  
4 section 5324.

5 “(ii) NOTICE.—Not later than 30  
6 days after property is seized by the Inter-  
7 nal Revenue Service pursuant to subpara-  
8 graph (A), the Internal Revenue Service  
9 shall—

10 “(I) make a good faith effort to  
11 find all persons with an ownership in-  
12 terest in such property; and

13 “(II) provide each such person  
14 with a notice of the seizure and of the  
15 person’s rights under clause (iv).

16 “(iii) EXTENSION OF NOTICE UNDER  
17 CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Internal  
18 Revenue Service may apply to a court of  
19 competent jurisdiction for one 30-day ex-  
20 tension of the notice requirement under  
21 clause (ii) if the Internal Revenue Service  
22 can establish probable cause of an immi-  
23 nent threat to national security or personal  
24 safety necessitating such extension.

1           “(iv) POST-SEIZURE HEARING.—If a  
2           person with a property interest in property  
3           seized pursuant to subparagraph (A) by  
4           the Internal Revenue Service requests a  
5           hearing by a court of competent jurisdic-  
6           tion within 30 days after the date on which  
7           notice is provided under subclause (ii),  
8           such property shall be returned unless the  
9           court holds an adversarial hearing and  
10          finds within 30 days of such request (or  
11          such longer period as the court may pro-  
12          vide, but only on request of an interested  
13          party) that there is probable cause to be-  
14          lieve that there is a violation of section  
15          5324 involving such property and probable  
16          cause to believe that the property to be  
17          seized was derived from an illegal source or  
18          the funds were structured for the purpose  
19          of concealing the violation of a criminal  
20          law or regulation other than section  
21          5324.”.

1 **SEC. 3. EXCLUSION OF INTEREST RECEIVED IN ACTION TO**  
2 **RECOVER PROPERTY SEIZED BY THE INTER-**  
3 **NAL REVENUE SERVICE BASED ON STRUC-**  
4 **TURING TRANSACTION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chap-  
6 ter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended  
7 by inserting before section 140 the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 139G. INTEREST RECEIVED IN ACTION TO RECOVER**  
9 **PROPERTY SEIZED BY THE INTERNAL REV-**  
10 **ENUE SERVICE BASED ON STRUCTURING**  
11 **TRANSACTION.**

12 “Gross income shall not include any interest received  
13 from the Federal Government in connection with an action  
14 to recover property seized by the Internal Revenue Service  
15 pursuant to section 5317(c)(2) of title 31, United States  
16 Code, by reason of a claimed violation of section 5324 of  
17 such title.”.

18 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
19 for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of such Code  
20 is amended by inserting before the item relating to section  
21 140 the following new item:

“Sec. 139G. Interest received in action to recover property seized by the Inter-  
nal Revenue Service based on structuring transaction.”.

1       (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall apply to interest received on or after the  
3 date of the enactment of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives September 5,  
2017.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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