

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7547

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose excise taxes on passenger space travel.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2022

Mr. BLUMENAUER 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 impose excise taxes on passenger space travel.

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 “Securing Protections
5 Against Carbon Emissions Tax Act” or as the “SPACE
6 Tax Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. EXCISE TAXES ON PASSENGER SPACE TRAVEL.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of the Internal Rev-
9 enue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after sub-
10 chapter C the following new subchapter:

1 **“Subchapter D—Passenger Space Travel**

“Sec. 4285. Passenger tax.

“Sec. 4286. Launch tax.

“Sec. 4287. Definitions and special rules.

2 **“SEC. 4285. PASSENGER TAX.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed on the
4 amount paid for taxable space transportation of any non-
5 exempt person a tax equal to 10 percent of the amount
6 so paid.

7 “(b) BY WHOM PAID.—The taxes imposed by this
8 section shall be paid by the person making the payment
9 subject to tax.

10 “(c) TAXABLE SPACE TRANSPORTATION.—For pur-
11 poses of this section, the term ‘taxable space transpor-
12 tation’ means transportation on any space vehicle if the
13 launch or reentry of such vehicle is required to be licensed
14 under chapter 509 of title 51, United States Code.

15 **“SEC. 4286. LAUNCH TAX.**

16 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed on each
17 taxable space launch a tax equal to—

18 “(1) \$2,000,000 if any portion of the inten-
19 tional flight path of any passenger-carrying portion
20 of the space vehicle is other than a suborbital trajec-
21 tory, and

22 “(2) \$100,000 in any other case.

1 “(b) BY WHOM PAID.—The tax imposed by this sec-
2 tion shall be paid by the person which obtains (or is re-
3 quired to obtain) the license described in subsection (c)(1).

4 “(c) TAXABLE SPACE LAUNCH.—For purposes of
5 this section, the term ‘taxable space launch’ means any
6 launch of a space vehicle if—

7 “(1) such launch is required to be licensed
8 under chapter 509 of title 51, United States Code,
9 and

10 “(2) one or more non-exempt persons are trans-
11 ported by such vehicle.

12 “(d) TREATMENT OF LAUNCH AND REENTRY VEHI-
13 CLES WHICH ARE LAUNCHED TOGETHER.—A launch ve-
14 hicle and a reentry vehicle which are launched together
15 shall be treated as a single space vehicle for purposes of
16 this section.

17 “(e) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any
18 calendar year after 2022, each dollar amount in subsection
19 (a) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

20 “(1) such dollar amount, multiplied by

21 “(2) the cost-of-living adjustment determined
22 under section 1(f)(3) for such calendar year, deter-
23 mined by substituting ‘calendar year 2021’ for ‘cal-
24 endar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

1 Any increase determined under the preceding sentence
2 shall be rounded to the nearest dollar.

3 **“SEC. 4287. DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.**

4 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this chapter—

5 “(1) SPACE VEHICLE.—The term ‘space vehicle’
6 means any launch vehicle and any reentry vehicle.

7 “(2) NON-EXEMPT PERSON.—The term ‘non-ex-
8 empt person’ means any person other than—

9 “(A) crew, or

10 “(B) a government astronaut.

11 “(3) OTHER TERMS.—The following terms shall
12 have the same meaning given such terms in section
13 50902 of title 51, United States Code:

14 “(A) Crew, except that in no event shall a
15 person be treated as crew for purposes of this
16 chapter if the amount which would be subject
17 to tax under section 4285 if such person was
18 not so treated exceeds the amount of compensa-
19 tion that such person receives for services as
20 crew.

21 “(B) Government astronaut.

22 “(C) Launch vehicle.

23 “(D) Reentry vehicle.

24 “(E) Suborbital trajectory.

1 “(b) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may
2 issue such regulation or other guidance as the Secretary
3 determines necessary or appropriate to carry out the pur-
4 poses of this subchapter, including rules similar to the
5 rules of subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) of section 4263
6 with respect to the taxes imposed by section 4285.”.

7 (b) CREDIT OR REFUND TO CERTAIN PERSONS COL-
8 LECTING PASSENGER TAX.—Section 6415 of such Code
9 is amended by striking “or 4271” inserting “4271, or
10 4285”.

11 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sub-
12 chapters for chapter 33 of such Code is amended by in-
13 serting after the item relating to subchapter C the fol-
14 lowing new item:

“SUBCHAPTER D. PASSENGER SPACE TRAVEL.”.

15 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
16 this section shall apply to calendar quarters beginning
17 more than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this
18 Act.

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