

S Corporation Association Update October 30, 2018

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- 1. S-Corp Testifies on 199A Brian Reardon, <u>BReardon@S-Corp.org</u>

Board Member and Advisory Committee Chair Tom Nichols represented S-Corp in Tuesday's IRS hearing on Section 199A.



Tom was one of 26 witnesses to testify. As Tax Notes summarized:

Thomas J. Nichols of Meissner, Tierney, Fisher & Nichols SC said when taxpayers have losses from one trade or business and income from another, they are required to aggregate those amounts to determine the deduction amount, even though aggregation isn't mandated when determining whether Form W-2 wages and basis in property can be combined.

Read the full Washington Wire here.

2. S-Corp in the News

News Analysis: Could the IRS Identify SALT Workarounds as Listed Transactions? Tax Notes

Oct. 29, 2018:

After Connecticut adopted its entity-level tax arrangement, Parity for Main Street Employers — a coalition of businesses organized as passthroughs — released model state legislation for the SALT cap workaround.

"According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, the tax hike from the loss of the SALT deduction is significantly bigger than the benefit of the 20-percent pass-through deduction," Chris Smith, the coalition's executive director, said in May.

Brian Reardon, president of the S Corporation Association, praised the AICPA's analysis of the 13 states and localities that already impose some type of entity-level tax on passthrough businesses. "Nobody's arguing that those taxes wouldn't be deductible under the new tax reform regime," he said.

"That clarification, in my mind, strengthened the case that we have," Reardon said. "We're not trying to pretend that a tax is a charitable contribution. We're simply saying that if the new rule is that entity-level taxes are deductible and shareholder taxes are not, then states should look to impose these taxes at the entity level and make them deductible."

Reardon added that it's patently unfair that under the TCJA, C corporations can continue to deduct state and local taxes, but an S corporation cannot.

"There's no reasonable, underlying policy rationale for that," Reardon said. "Until we can fix this at the federal level, I think it's perfectly appropriate for states to address it on their own."

<u>Business Tax Briefs, Groups Seek Expensing, Repatriation Fixes,</u> Bloomberg Tax Oct. 10, 2018:

S Corporation Group's Repatriation Revisions

The IRS's denial of refunds to companies that overpay their repatriation tax liabilities could force S corporation shareholders to pay taxes "that would otherwise be deferred indefinitely," and the agency ought to revise its stance, the S Corporation Association said in an Oct. 9 letter to acting IRS Chief Counsel William Paul.

The 2017 tax overhaul created a 15.5 percent tax on multinationals' accumulated overseas cash and cash equivalents and an 8 percent levy on less liquid accumulated offshore earnings, which can be paid in installments over eight years, under tax code Section 965.

S corporation shareholders can choose to defer repatriation tax payments indefinitely until a "triggering event," such as the end of the company's S corporation status or the liquidation of all its assets, occurs.

In an Aug. 2 memorandum, the IRS said repatriation tax overpayments can only be

applied to future installments and not refunded for the taxpayer's overall tax year payment "until the entire 2017 tax liability is paid, including all of the installments of the deferred payment." This memo particularly hurts S corporations, given their special deferral election, S Corporation Association President Brian Reardon wrote: "It is contrary to congressional intent and it is contrary to a plain reading of the law."

December Membership Call Christine Walizer, cwalizer@s-corp.org

Please mark Tuesday, December 11th at 5:00 p.m. Eastern for our next S Corporation Association Member Call. The call will cover the results of the 2018 elections and what they mean for tax policy, an update on our pass-through SALT fix, plus the latest on Congress' lame duck session and the leadership elections. Should be a very interesting call, so be sure to join.

Just click on this <u>calendar invite</u> to put this call directly on your calendar.

4. Social Media Update

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