

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
Internal Revenue Service
Relief for Service in Combat Zone and
for Presidentially Declared Disaster
OMB # 1545-XXXX

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

This collection covers the final rules to the Regulations on Procedure and Administration (26 CFR part 301) under section 7508 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code), relating to postponement of certain acts by reason of service in a combat zone, and section 7508A, relating to postponement of certain tax-related deadlines by reason of a Presidentially declared disaster. Section 7508A was added to the Code by section 911 of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, Public Law 105-34 (111 Stat. 788 (1997)), effective for any period for performing an act that had not expired before August 5, 1997.

In general, section 7508 provides that the time individuals serve in a combat zone plus 180 days will be disregarded in determining whether acts listed in section 7508(a)(1), such as filing returns, paying taxes, filing certain petitions with the Tax Court, filing a claim for credit or refund, bringing suit, and assessing tax, are performed within the time prescribed.

2. USE OF DATA

This information is required for the IRS to determine whether good cause exists to suspend compliance actions, such as audits or enforced collections, until 180 days after the taxpayer has left the zone.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

Taxpayers, including Civilian taxpayers working with U.S. Armed Forces, qualifying for such combat zone relief may also notify the IRS directly of their status through a special e-mail address: combatzone@irs.gov.

4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION

The information obtained through this collection is unique and is not already available for use or adaptation from another source. We have attempted to eliminate duplication within the agency wherever possible.

5. METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES

There are no small entities affected by this collection.

6. CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

The consequences are that the IRS will be unable to verify proper tax reporting and will need to collect this data through other means. This will compromise the Agency's ability to enforce tax compliance and ensure proper tax reporting by taxpayers. This could result in tax penalties to the taxpayers and inconsistent reporting of data. Tax compliance is a vital part of the government's ability to meet its' mission and serve the public.

7. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

There are no special circumstances requiring data collection to be inconsistent with Guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8. CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS

A notice of proposed rulemaking (REG-101492-98, 2000-3 I.R.B. 326) was published in the Federal Register (64 F.R. 73444) on December 30, 1999. No public hearing was requested or held. One comment letter was received. After consideration of the comments, the proposed regulations were adopted as modified by TD 8911, published in the Federal register (65 F.R.78409) on December 15, 2000. The comments are discussed in TD 8911.

A notice of proposed rulemaking (REG-142680-06, 2008-35 I.R.B. 565) was published in the Federal Register (73 FR 40471-01) on July 15, 2008. No comments were received from the public in response to the notice of proposed rulemaking, and no public hearing was requested or held. The proposed regulations were adopted as revised in TD 9443 and published in the Federal register (74 F.R. 2370) on January 15, 2009.

In response to the Federal Register Notice dated November 9, 2018 (83 F.R. 56151), we received no comments during the comment period regarding these regulations

9. EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS

No payment or gift has been provided to any respondents.

10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103. Information is to be supplied to a state regulatory authority that would control the confidentiality of the information.

11. JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

A privacy impact assessment (PIA) has been conducted for information collected under this request as part of the “Individual Master File (IMF)” system and a Privacy Act System of Records notice (SORN) has been issued for this system under IRS 24.030-Individual Master File. The Internal Revenue Service PIAs can be found at <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Privacy-Impact-Assessments-PIA>.

Title 26 USC 6109 requires inclusion of identifying numbers in returns, statements, or other documents for securing proper identification of persons required to make such returns, statements, or documents and is the authority for social security numbers (SSNs) in IRS systems.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

The collection of information is in regulation sections 301.7508-1 and 301.7508a-1. The estimated total annual reporting burden for this collection of information is 6,600 hours and the estimated average annual burden hours per respondent is 20 minutes. Estimates of the annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown are not available at this time.

OMB Collection	Authority	Form	Annual Responses	Hours per Response	Total Burden
IRS 1545-xxxx	IRC 7508	15109	20,000	.33	6,600
	IRS TOTAL		20,000		6,600

Please continue to assign OMB number 1545-xxxx to these regulations.

301.7508-1
301-7508a-1

13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

As suggested by OMB, our Federal Register notice dated November 9, 2018, requested public comments on estimates of cost burden that are not captured in the estimates of burden hours, i.e., estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. However, to ensure more accuracy and consistency across its information collections, IRS is currently in the process of revising the methodology it uses to estimate burden and costs. Once this methodology is complete, IRS will update this information collection to reflect a more precise estimate of burden and costs.

14. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

After consultation with various functions within the Service, we have determined that the cost of developing, printing, processing, distribution and overhead for the Form is nominal.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

This is new request for approval.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

There are no plans for tabulation, statistical analysis and publication.

17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

IRS believes that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the regulations sunset as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

18. EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

Note: The following paragraph applies to collections of information in this submission:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.