

STATE OF NEW YORK

1636

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 10, 2017

Introduced by Sen. GOLDEN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the tax law, in relation to establishing the "caregiver's assistance act"

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as
2 the "caregiver's assistance act".

3 § 2. Section 606 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subsection
4 (ccc) to read as follows:

5 (ccc) Elder care credit. (1) A taxpayer shall be allowed a credit
6 against the tax imposed by this article for qualified care expenses paid
7 by the taxpayer for the care of a qualifying senior family member. The
8 amount of the credit shall equal the lesser of twenty percent of the
9 qualified care expenses paid by the taxpayer during the taxable year or
10 five hundred fifty-five dollars, whichever is less. If the credit or
11 credits provided pursuant to this section shall exceed the taxpayer's
12 tax for such taxable year, the excess shall be treated as an overpayment
13 of tax to be credited or refunded in accordance with the provisions of
14 section six hundred eighty-six of this article, provided, however, that
15 no interest shall be paid thereon. No credit shall be granted under
16 this subsection if (i) the taxpayer's New York adjusted gross income is
17 greater than forty-five thousand dollars for a single taxpayer or sixty
18 thousand dollars for married taxpayers, or (ii) if the taxpayer has
19 claimed the credit authorized in subsection (c) of this section for
20 qualified care expenses paid for the care of a qualifying senior family
21 member.

22 (2) As used in this subsection:

23 (A) "Taxpayer" shall mean a resident taxpayer, but shall not include a
24 a part-year resident taxpayer.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (B) "Qualifying senior family member" shall mean a person who resided
2 with the taxpayer for at least six months during the taxable year for
3 which credit is claimed, is within the third degree of consanguinity to
4 the taxpayer, is at least sixty years of age on or before December
5 thirty-first of the taxable year for which credit is claimed and has a
6 New York adjusted gross income for the taxable year for which credit is
7 claimed of thirteen thousand dollars or less for a single family member
8 or twenty thousand dollars or less for a senior family member and his or
9 her spouse. A qualifying senior family member includes a person who
10 otherwise meets the qualifications specified in the preceding sentence
11 but who occupies a separate room or rooms in or at the residence of the
12 taxpayer, such as those commonly referred to as mother-in-law apart-
13 ments, but shall not include a tenant, subtenant, roomer or boarder who
14 pays a lease or rental fee to the taxpayer for the space.

15 (C) "Qualified care expenses" shall mean payments made by the taxpayer
16 for goods and services necessary to allow the qualifying senior family
17 member to be maintained in the taxpayer's residence that are: (i)
18 provided to or for the benefit of the qualifying senior family member or
19 to assist the taxpayer in caring for the qualifying senior family member
20 and may be provided by an organization or an individual not related to
21 the taxpayer or the qualifying senior family member; and (ii) not
22 compensated for by insurance or federal or state programs. Such expenses
23 include, but not be limited to, home health agency services, adult day
24 care, companionship services, personal care attendant services, homemak-
25 er services, respite care, health care equipment and supplies, home
26 modification, or any other services necessary to provide assistance in
27 two or more activities in daily living.

28 (3) When two or more taxpayers who do not file joint tax returns may
29 claim credit for the same qualifying senior family member or members
30 pursuant to this subsection, the credit or credits shall be equally
31 divided between or among such individuals unless such individuals file
32 with the commissioner a written agreement setting forth a different
33 division.

34 (4) The commissioner may require a taxpayer to furnish as support of
35 his or her claim for credit under this subsection receipts for qualified
36 care expenses or other such proofs of payment as shall satisfy the
37 commissioner.

38 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all
39 taxable years beginning on and after January first two thousand eigh-
40 teen.