

section 1308 of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996. The collection of information required in the regulation is necessary for a taxpayer to obtain, retain, or terminate S corporation treatment.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit organizations, individuals, and farms.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 10,660.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 57 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Reporting Burden Hours:* 10,110.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

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 return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: November 17, 2003.

**R. Joseph Durbala,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-29167 Filed 11-20-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[LR-236-81]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13(44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, LR-236-81 (TD 8251), Credit for Increasing Research Activity (§ 1.41-8(d)).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before January 20, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Larnice Mack at (202) 622-3179, or [Larnice.Mack@irs.gov](mailto:Larnice.Mack@irs.gov), or Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Credit for Increasing Research Activity.

*OMB Number:* 1545-0732.

*Regulation Project Number:* LR-236-81.

*Abstract:* This regulation provides rules for the credit for increasing research activities. Internal Revenue Code section 41(f) provides that commonly controlled groups of taxpayers shall compute the credit as if they are single taxpayer. The credit allowed to a member of the group is a portion of the group's credit. Section 1.41-8(d) of the regulation permits a corporation that is a member of more than one group to designate which controlled group they will be aggregated with for purposes of Code section 41(f).

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 250.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 15 hrs.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 63.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

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 return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: November 13, 2003.

**R. Joseph Durbala,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 4506

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this