§ 1.801–6 Adjustments in reserves for policy loans.

(a) *In general.* Section 801(d) provides that for purposes only of determining whether or not an insurance company is a life insurance company (as defined in section 801(a) and paragraph (b) of § 1.801–3), the life insurance reserves (as defined in section 801(b) and § 1.801–4), and the total reserves (as defined in section 801(c) and paragraph (a) of § 1.801–5), shall each be reduced by an amount equal to the mean of the aggregates, at the beginning and end of the taxable year, of the policy loans outstanding with respect to contracts for which life insurance reserves are maintained. Such reduction shall be made after any adjustments required under section 806(a) and § 1.806–3 have been made.

(b) *Policy loans defined.* The term *policy loans* includes loans made by the insurance company, by whatever name called, for which the reserve on a contract is the collateral.

(c) *Illustration of principles.* The provisions of section 801(d) and this section may be illustrated by the following example:

Example. The books of T, an insurance company, selling only life insurance and cancellable accident and health insurance, reflect (after adjustment under section 806 (a)) the following facts for the taxable year 1958:

	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Mean of year
1. Life insurance reserves	$1,000	$2,000	$1,500
2. Policy loans	50	850	450
3. Life insurance reserves less policy loans	....	....	1,050
4. Unearned premiums, and unpaid losses (whether or not ascertained), on cancellable accident and health insurance	900	1,600	1,250
5. Total reserves adjusted for policy loans (item 3 plus item 4)	....	....	2,300

As the rules provided by section 801 (a) and (d) require that the figure in item 3 ($1,050) be more than 50 percent of the mean of the year figure in item 5 ($2,300) for an insurance company to qualify as a life insurance company, T would not qualify as a life insurance company for the taxable year 1958.

[T.D. 6513, 25 FR 12657, Dec. 10, 1960]

§ 1.801–7 Variable annuities.

(a) *In general.* (1) Section 801(g)(1) provides that for purposes of part I, subchapter L, chapter 1 of the Code, an annuity contract includes a contract which provides for the payment of a variable annuity computed on the basis of recognized mortality tables and the investment experience of the company issuing such a contract. A variable annuity differs from the ordinary or fixed dollar annuity in that the annuity benefits payable under a variable annuity contract vary with the insurance company's investment experience with respect to such contracts while the annuity benefits paid under a fixed dollar annuity contract are guaranteed irrespective of the company's actual investment earnings.

(2) The reserves held with respect to the annuity contracts described in section 801(g)(1) and subparagraph (1) of this paragraph shall qualify as life insurance reserves within the meaning of section 801(b)(1) and paragraph (a) of § 1.801–4 provided such reserves are required by law (as defined in paragraph (b) of § 1.801–5) and are set aside to mature or liquidate, either by payment or reinsurance, future unaccrued claims arising from such contracts involving, at the time with respect to which the reserve is computed, life, health, or accident contingencies. Accordingly, a company issuing variable annuity contracts shall qualify as a life insurance company for Federal income tax purposes if it satisfies the requirements of section 801(a) (relating to the definition of a life insurance company) and paragraph (b) of § 1.801–3.

(b) *Special rules for variable annuities*—(1) *Adjusted reserves rate; assumed rate.* The adjusted reserves rate for any taxable year with respect to the annuity contracts described in section 801(g)(1) and paragraph (a)(1) of this section, and the rate of interest assumed by the taxpayer for any taxable year in calculating the reserve on any such contract, shall be a rate equal to the current earnings rate determined under section 801(g)(3) and subparagraph (2) of this paragraph. However, any change in the rate of interest assumed by the taxpayer in calculating the reserve on a variable annuity contract for any taxable year which is attributable to