



**Multistate Tax Commission Uniformity Committee  
Section 18 Apportionment Regulatory Working Group**

**Proposed Model Regulation Establishing Formula for Apportioning Income of Taxpayers with No or Minimal “Receipts”**

**[REG. IV.18 Section #]**

- (a) This section applies to the determination of the receipts factor if the taxpayer’s receipts, as defined by [Compact Article IV.1.g], are less than 3.33% of the taxpayer’s gross receipts, as defined by [Model Allocation and Apportionment Regulation IV.2.(a)(5)].
- (b) To be included in the receipts factor under this section, gross receipts must give rise to apportionable income included in the tax base.
- (c) The following gross receipts are included in the receipts factor denominator and are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state as follows:
- (1) Dividends paid by a related party [as defined in Sec. 17 or other state law], are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state as follows:
    - (A) If paid from earnings that can be attributed to particular years, the dividends are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state in a proportion equal to the dividend payor’s average apportionment factor in this state, determined pursuant to [ref. to state law], for those years.

(B) If it cannot reasonably be determined that the dividends were paid from earnings attributed to particular years, the dividends are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state in a proportion equal to the dividend payor's average apportionment factor in this state, determined pursuant to [ref. to state law], for the current and preceding year.

EXAMPLE:

Taxpayer Bigbox Holdings, Inc. (Holdings) is a Delaware corporation, domiciled in Delaware, with numerous foreign and domestic subsidiaries. Holdings has no "receipts," as defined under this state's apportionment statutes. Holdings is the corporate parent of Bigbox Retailing, Inc. (Retailing), a domestic corporation with its commercial domicile in Maryland. During the tax year, Holdings receives \$100 million in dividends from Retailing and \$100 million in dividends from Holdings' foreign subsidiaries. Because the foreign-source dividends are excluded from this state's tax base pursuant to this state's laws, they are not "gross receipts" subject to apportionment and are not included in the receipts factor. Retailing conducted operations in ten states, including this state. Retailing's apportionment factor in this state in the current year is 20% and was 18% in the prior year. The dividends received from Retailing cannot be reasonably attributed to that entity's earnings in any specific year. Therefore, pursuant to subsection (c)(1)(B), Holdings' receipts factor in this state is calculated by including the \$100 million of apportionable dividends received from Retailing in the denominator and \$19 million in the numerator (i.e., the average of Retailing's apportionment factors in this state in the current year (20%) and prior year (18%)). -(2) Gains (net of related losses, but not less than zero) from the disposition of stock (or other intangible property rights) representing at least a 20% ownership interest in a business entity, or from the disposition of assets of a business entity or segment of a business entity, are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state in a proportion equal to the apportionment factor in this state as determined pursuant to [ref. to state law] for that business entity as if filing on a separate corporate basis, for the year preceding the disposition. In any case where the apportionment factor of the business entity cannot be reasonably determined, then the receipts from that gain are attributed to the receipts factor numerator of this state under subsections (d), (e), (f) or (g).

EXAMPLES:

(i) Taxpayer, Nuclear Corp. (Nuclear) is a holding company with no “receipts” from transactions and activities in the ordinary course of business and only *de minimis* tangible property and payroll. Nuclear forms Target Corp. (Target) and transfers its ownership interests in three power plants, located in three states, one of which is this state, to Target in exchange for the stock of Target. A year later, Nuclear sells the stock of Target to Risky Investments for \$500 million in cash, recognizing a gain of \$100 million. In the year preceding the sale, Target’s apportionment factor in this state was 30%. Nuclear would include in the denominator of its receipts factor \$100 million and would assign to the receipts factor numerator in this state \$30 million, based on Target’s apportionment factor in this state.

(ii) Same facts as (i) except Nuclear formed Target and then sold the Target stock on the same day. Because Target did not exist in the year preceding the disposition, its apportionment factor in this state for that year cannot be determined. Nuclear would apply other subsections of this regulation to attribute receipts from the gain to the receipts factor numerator in this state. (Note that the receipts cannot be assigned under subsection (d) of this regulation because Nuclear’s property and payroll factors are *de minimis*. Therefore, Nuclear would have to use subsection (e) or (f) to assign a portion of the \$100 million gain to its receipts factor numerator in this state.)

(iii) Same facts as (i) except Nuclear makes an IRC 338(h)(10) election, which this state conforms to, so the sale is treated as the sale by Target of its assets. The sale of Target’s assets in this state (the power plant) generated a gain of \$150 million, and the sale of Target’s remaining two power plants generated a loss of \$50 million. Target would include \$100 million of gain (the net amount) in the denominator of its receipts factor and assign 30% of that gain to this state based on Target’s apportionment factors in this state in the year preceding the sale.

(3) Receipts from activities described in sections 3(d) through 3(j) of the MTC’s Formula for the Apportionment and Allocation of the Net Income of Financial Institutions Model Statute (as adopted July 29, 2015) [or reference to state’s financial institution receipts factor rules] are included in the receipts factor denominator and assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state to the extent those receipts would be assigned to this state under the MTC’s Formula for the Apportionment and Allocation of the Net Income of Financial Institutions Model Statute (as adopted July 29, 2015), including the rule of assignment to commercial domicile in section (p) [or this state’s financial institution receipts factor rules] as if the taxpayer were a financial institution. However, in the case of

receipts associated with loans to a related party [as defined by Article IV, Section 17 or other state law], which are not secured by real property, including interest, fees, and penalties, the receipts are included in this state's numerator in a proportion equal to the related party's apportionment factor in this state [as determined under state law] in the year the receipts were generated.

EXAMPLES:

*[NOTE: These examples assume that the state has either adopted the MTC Model Formula for the Apportionment and Allocation of the Net Income of Financial Institutions or does not have similar rules. If the state has different rules for financial institutions, this example should reference those rules.]*

(i) Assume the same facts as in Example (c)(1)(i) above, but in addition, Holdings previously lent its excess capital to Retailing as an unsecured loan. In repayment of that loan, Holdings received \$40 million of interest income from Retailing in the tax year, in addition to the \$100 million of dividend income that Holdings received from Retailing. Pursuant to subsection (c)(3) of this regulation, Holdings' interest income would be included in the receipts factor denominator, and 20% of Holdings' interest receipts (\$8 million) would be included in the numerator because 20% of Retailing's apportionment factors were in this state in the year the interest income was generated. Assuming Holdings had no other gross receipts, Holdings' receipt factor numerator in this state is 19.28% (\$27 million / \$140 million).

(ii) Taxpayer Loan Participation Inc. (LPI) was formed to acquire and hold a participation in loans secured by real property originated by an unrelated financial institution. LPI has no employees or property and no other receipts except for payments of interest on the participation loan held. Even though LPI would not be considered a financial institution for purposes of this state's rules, its gross receipts are attributed to the receipts factor numerator in this state as if it were a financial institution. (Under Section 3(d) of the MTC Formula, LPI's gross receipts representing interest would be attributable to the numerator of the receipts factor in this state to the extent at least 50% of the real estate securing each original loan is located in this state; if less than 50% of the real estate of the real estate securing each original loan is located in any one state, then the gross receipts would be assigned to this state if the original borrower was located in this state at the time the loan was originated.)

(4) Gross receipts derived from accounts receivable previously sold to or otherwise transferred to the taxpayer, to the extent those gross receipts cannot be assigned under subsection (c)(3), are included in the denominator and assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state to the extent those accounts receivable are attributed to borrowers located in this state; provided however, that if the taxpayer is not taxable [as defined in Article IV, section 3] in a state in which the borrowers are located, those gross receipts are excluded from the denominator of the taxpayer's receipts factor.

EXAMPLE: Taxpayer IH Factoring, Inc. (Factoring) is a Delaware corporation with all twenty of its employees in Delaware. Factoring exclusively purchases installment agreements (accounts receivable) from its parent corporation, Iron Horse Motorcycles, Inc. (Iron Horse). Factoring has information showing the addresses of the installment agreement customers. Factoring purchases \$10 million of installment agreements originating from Iron Horse's borrowers in State A, \$10 million of installment agreements from borrowers in State B, and \$20 million of installment agreements originating from Iron Horse's borrower's in this state. Factoring is taxable in State A and this state, but not State B. Factoring re-sells the agreements as securitized instruments to institutional investors. \$30 million of Factoring's receipts from selling the securitized instruments would be included in the receipts factor denominator, and \$20 million of Factoring's receipts and would be assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state.

(5) The net amount, but not less than zero, of receipts not otherwise assigned under this subsection (c) arising from investment activities, including the holding, maturity, redemption, sale, exchange, or other disposition of marketable securities or cash are assigned to the sales factor numerator in this state if the receipts would be assigned to this state under Section (n) or (p) of the MTC's Formula for the Apportionment and Allocation of the Net Income of Financial Institutions Model Statute (as adopted July 29, 2015) [or this state's financial institutions receipts factor rules]; all other receipts from investment activities are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state if the investments are managed in this state.

(d) [USE IF THE STATE HAS A MULTI-FACTOR FORMULA] Gross receipts, other than those included and assigned under subsection (c) are included in the receipts factor denominator, and are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state in a proportion equal to the [average] of the taxpayer's [other apportionment factors] determined pursuant to [ref. to state law], if those factors are *non-de minimis*.

EXAMPLE: (i) Taxpayer Windfall, Inc. (Windfall) is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of ABC Manufacturing Company (ABC). Windfall has 10% of its property and 20% of its payroll in this state. Windfall's only gross receipt is \$1 billion received in settlement of ABC's long-standing patent infringement suit against a business competitor. Because this settlement amount cannot be attributed to the receipts factor in this state under subsection (c) of this regulation, Windfall would include \$1 billion in its receipts factor denominator and [15%] of that amount in the receipts factor numerator in this state, under this state's apportionment formula.

*NOTE – FROM THIS POINT – THE DRAFT'S NUMBERING ASSUMES THAT THE STATE INCLUDES SUBSECTION (d). IF NOT – THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS AND CROSS-REFERENCES TO ANY SUBSECTIONS INCLUDING AND AFTER (d) WILL HAVE TO BE RENUMBERED.*

(e) *[USE IF THE STATE ALLOWS STATE-LEVEL COMBINED OR CONSOLIDATED FILING.]* Except gross receipts included and assigned under subsections (c) and (d), gross receipts of a taxpayer whose income and factors are included in a combined or consolidated return in this state are included in the receipts factor denominator and are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state in a proportion equal to the receipts factor of the combined or consolidated group in this state determined pursuant to [state law].

EXAMPLE: Taxpayer Windfall, Inc. (Windfall) is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of ABC Manufacturing Company (ABC). Windfall's only gross receipt is \$1 billion received in settlement of ABC's long-standing patent infringement suit against a business competitor. Windfall is included on a combined return filed by ABC and Combined Subsidiaries. ABC and Combined Subsidiaries' receipts factor numerator in this state is 25%. Windfall would include \$1 billion in its receipts factor denominator (assuming that it would be subject to tax in every state to which a portion of that amount would be assigned under this regulation) and 25% of that amount would be assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state.

*NOTE – FROM THIS POINT – THE DRAFT'S NUMBERING ASSUMES THAT THE STATE INCLUDES SUBSECTION (d) AND (e). IF NOT – THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS AND CROSS-REFERENCES TO ANY SUBSECTIONS INCLUDING AND AFTER (d) WILL HAVE TO BE RENUMBERED.*

(f) Except gross receipts included and assigned under subsections (c), (d), and (e), gross receipts of a taxpayer that files as part of a federal consolidated return are included in the receipts factor denominator and are assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this

state in a proportion equal to a percentage (but not greater than 100%), the numerator of which is the total of the consolidated group members' income apportioned to this state pursuant to [ref. to state law], and the denominator of which is the total federal consolidated income.

EXAMPLE: Same facts as in the example under subsection (e), except that Windfall is not part of a combined group, but is included on a consolidated federal return filed by ABC and Consolidated Subsidiaries. The total federal taxable income of that consolidated group is \$5 billion, and the total amount of income of all other members of the consolidated group apportioned to this state is \$500 million. Windfall would include in its receipts factor denominator \$1 billion and would assign 10% of that amount to the receipts factor numerator in this state.

(g) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the taxpayer from petitioning for or the [tax administrator] from applying an alternative method to calculate the taxpayer's receipts factor in order to fairly represent the extent of the taxpayer's business activity in this state as provided for in Article IV, Section 18, including the application of this rule in situations that do not meet the threshold of subsection (a). Such alternative method may be appropriate, for example, in situations otherwise addressed under subsection (c)(1) where dividends were paid from earnings that were generated by the activities of a related party of the dividend payor, in which case the dividends may be more appropriately assigned to the receipts factor numerator in this state using the related party's average apportionment factors in this state.