

CHAPTER 291

ESTATE TAX

291.005 Definitions.
 291.03 Rates.
 291.07 Additional deductions.
 291.09 Determination of tax.

291.131 Penalties.
 291.132 Extension to file or pay.
 291.215 Valuation of estate; reporting.

291.005 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. Unless the context otherwise clearly requires, the following terms used in this chapter shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Federal gross estate" means the gross estate of a decedent as valued and otherwise determined for federal estate tax purposes by federal taxing authorities pursuant to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) "Minnesota gross estate" means the federal gross estate of a decedent after (a) excluding therefrom any property included therein which has its situs outside Minnesota and (b) including therein any property omitted from the federal gross estate which is includable therein, has its situs in Minnesota, and was not disclosed to federal taxing authorities. The Minnesota gross estate shall be valued pursuant to the provisions of section 291.215, subdivision 1.

(3) "Personal representative" means the executor, administrator or other person appointed by the court to administer and dispose of the property of the decedent. If there is no executor, administrator or other person appointed, qualified, and acting within this state, then any person in actual or constructive possession of any property having a situs in this state which is included in the federal gross estate of the decedent shall be deemed to be a personal representative to the extent of the property and the Minnesota estate tax due with respect to the property.

(4) "Resident decedent" means an individual whose domicile at the time of his death was in Minnesota.

(5) "Nonresident decedent" means an individual whose domicile at the time of his death was not in Minnesota.

(6) "Situs of property" means, with respect to real property, the state or country in which it is located; with respect to tangible personal property, the state or country in which it was normally kept or located at the time of the decedent's death; and with respect to intangible personal property, the state or country in which the decedent was domiciled at death.

(7) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of revenue or any person to whom the commissioner has delegated functions under this chapter.

(8) "Internal Revenue Code" means the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended through March 12, 1983.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1982]

History: 1983 c 222 s 22

291.03 RATES.

Subdivision 1. **Generally.** The tax imposed shall be an amount equal to the greater of:

(1) A tax computed by applying to the Minnesota taxable estate the following prescribed rates:

- 10 percent on the first \$100,000,
- 11 percent on the next \$500,000 or part thereof,
- 12 percent on the excess, or

(2) A tax equal to the same proportion of the maximum credit allowable under section 2011 of the Internal Revenue Code for state death taxes described herein as the Minnesota gross estate bears to the value of the federal gross estate. The tax determined under this paragraph shall not be greater than the maximum credit allowable under section 2011 of the Internal Revenue Code.

[For text of subs 2 to 7, see M.S.1982]

History: 1983 c 222 s 23

291.07 ADDITIONAL DEDUCTIONS.

Subdivision 1. In determining the tax imposed by section 291.01, the following additional deductions shall be allowed:

- (1) funeral expenses;
- (2) reasonable legal, accounting, fiduciary and administration expenses and fees with respect to both probate and nonprobate assets, including but not limited to expenses incurred during administration in converting real and personal property held by the estate into cash;
- (3) expenses of last illness unpaid at death;
- (4) valid claims against and debts of the decedent, unpaid at death, which have been properly paid;
- (5) the portion of the federal estate tax allocable to Minnesota, which shall equal the amount obtained by multiplying the federal estate tax due and payable to the United States Treasury by a fraction, the numerator of which shall equal the value of the Minnesota gross estate reduced by: (a) in the case of a resident decedent, the deductions and exemptions allowed by sections 291.05, 291.051, 291.065, 291.07, subdivision 1, clauses (1), (2), (3), (4), (6), and (7); or (b) in the case of a nonresident decedent the deductions and exemptions allowed by sections 291.05, 291.051, 291.065, 291.08, clauses (1), (2), (4) and (5), and the denominator of which shall equal the value of the federal taxable estate as defined in section 2051 of the Internal Revenue Code; provided, however, in any case where any property is included in the Minnesota gross estate but incorrectly omitted from the federal gross estate or where any property that is included in both the Minnesota gross estate and the federal gross estate is valued at a higher or lower value in determining the Minnesota gross estate than in determining the federal gross estate, the federal taxable estate shall be recomputed for purposes of this provision and shall be based on a federal gross estate including the value of such omitted property and including or excluding the difference in value of such revalued property, and further provided that the federal estate tax deduction shall not exceed the federal estate tax due and payable to the United States Treasury;
- (6) real estate taxes due and payable prior to or in the year of the decedent's death with respect to real estate subject to taxation under this chapter and other taxes which have accrued and are a lien on property in the estate at the time of death;
- (7) liens and mortgages on property subject to taxation under this chapter which are not deductible as claims or debts of the decedent.

Subd. 3. *[Repealed, 1983 c 222 s 45]*

History: 1983 c 222 s 24

291.09 DETERMINATION OF TAX.

[For text of subs 1a and 2a, see M.S.1982]

Subd. 3a. (1) The commissioner may challenge matters of valuation or taxability of any assets reported on the return, or any deductions claimed, or the computation of tax, only if within 180 days from the due date of the return or the receipt of the return and all documents required to be filed with the return, whichever is later, the commissioner mails or delivers a written notice to the personal representative objecting to the return as filed and specifying the reasons for the objection.

(2) If the personal representative disagrees with the objection or does not wish to fully comply with the objection, he may request that the commissioner hold a hearing on the objection. Within 30 days of receipt of a request, the commissioner shall set a time and place for hearing. Unless otherwise agreed upon, the hearing date shall not be earlier than 30 days nor later than 60 days from the date of the notice setting the hearing. The notice of hearing shall set forth the rights available to the personal representative under chapter 14. Not later than 30 days after the commissioner receives the report and recommendation of the hearing examiner, or a written waiver of his hearing rights by the personal representative, the commissioner shall issue an order determining the tax. Any such determination made by the commissioner may be appealed to the tax court as provided in section 271.09.

(3) At any time together with or after the objection, the commissioner, on his own initiative, may set a time and place for a hearing in accordance with (2) above.

(4) In his objection, or at any time thereafter, the commissioner may assess any additional tax as the facts may warrant, subject to the right of the personal representative to demand a hearing under chapter 15. If the personal representative does not demand a hearing within 90 days of the date of the assessment, the tax so assessed shall be legally due and the commissioner may proceed to collect any unpaid tax after one year from the date of death. If the commissioner later finds the tax assessment to be erroneous, he may adjust the assessment prior to collection.

(5) The commissioner shall not be required to object to any subsequent original, amended or supplemental return in order to preserve his rights. The commissioner shall not be precluded from objecting to a subsequent original, amended or supplemental return even though an original return was accepted as filed. If the commissioner had accepted an original return showing no tax due and a subsequent original, amended or supplemental return discloses additional assets not disclosed on the original return, the commissioner may object to any matter of valuation, taxability, deduction or computation of tax on the original return within 180 days of receipt of the subsequent original, amended or supplemental return.

(6) Subject to the provisions of sections 291.11 and 291.215, the Minnesota estate tax liability shall be considered as finally determined on the date notification of acceptance is issued to the personal representative or, if no objection is filed, on the day following 180 days from the due date of the return or the receipt of the return, together with all other documents required to be filed with the return, whichever is later.

(7) Subject to the time limits imposed elsewhere in this chapter, the commissioner may refund an overpayment of tax, penalty or interest even though the personal representative has not made an application for refund.

[For text of subds 4a to 7, see M.S.1982]

History: 1983 c 222 s 25

291.131 PENALTIES.

[For text of subds 1 to 5, see M.S.1982]

Subd. 6. The amount of tax not timely paid, including the amount of unpaid tax when the taxpayer elects to pay the tax in installments, together with any penalty provided by this section, shall bear interest at the rate specified in section 270.75 from the time such tax should have been paid if no extension had been granted or election to pay the tax in installments had been made until paid. All interest and penalty shall be added to the tax and collected as a part thereof.

History: 1983 c 222 s 26

291.132 EXTENSION TO FILE OR PAY.

Subdivision 1. The commissioner may extend the time for filing returns or making payment of the tax, without penalty, for a period not to exceed six months. In lieu of the six month extension, the commissioner may extend the time for payment of the tax, without penalty, for a period not to exceed two years if the payment of the tax would result in an undue hardship on the estate. The written request for the undue hardship extension shall be made to the commissioner no later than nine months after the death of the person from whom the transfer is made. The taxpayer may elect to pay the taxes in installments as specified in section 291.11, subdivision 1, provided that the period of time for the payment of the taxes shall not exceed five years from the expiration of the extension granted by the commissioner. Where an extension of time has been granted for payment, interest shall be paid at the rate specified in section 270.75 from the date when payment should have been made if no extension had been granted, until the tax is paid. When an election has been made to pay the tax in installments, interest shall be paid at the rate specified in section 270.75 from the date when payment of the tax should have been made if no election to pay the tax in installments had been made.

[For text of subds 2 to 4, see M.S.1982]

History: 1983 c 222 s 27

291.215 VALUATION OF ESTATE; REPORTING.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1982]

Subd. 3. The personal representative shall file an amended estate tax return within 90 days after any amended estate tax return is filed pursuant to the provisions of the United States Internal Revenue Code. If no amended federal estate tax return is filed but the federal estate tax return is changed or corrected, the personal representative shall file an amended estate tax return with the commissioner of revenue within 90 days after the final determination of the change or correction is made. If the personal representative fails to file an amended estate tax return, the commissioner of revenue may reassess the estate tax.

History: 1983 c 222 s 28