

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R. 4181**

---

---

**AN ACT**

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the marriage penalty relief provided under the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.



108<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# **H. R. 4181**

---

## **AN ACT**

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the marriage penalty relief provided under the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF INCREASED STANDARD DEDUC-**  
2 **TION FOR MARRIED TAXPAYERS FILING**  
3 **JOINT RETURNS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 63(c) of  
5 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to basic  
6 standard deduction) is amended to read as follows:

7 “(2) BASIC STANDARD DEDUCTION.—For pur-  
8 poses of paragraph (1), the basic standard deduction  
9 is—

10 “(A) 200 percent of the dollar amount in  
11 effect under subparagraph (C) for the taxable  
12 year in the case of—

13 “(i) a joint return, or

14 “(ii) a surviving spouse (as defined in  
15 section 2(a)),

16 “(B) \$4,400 in the case of a head of  
17 household (as defined in section 2(b)), or

18 “(C) \$3,000 in any other case.”.

19 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

20 (1) Section 63(c)(4) of such Code is amended  
21 by striking “(2)(D)” each place it occurs and insert-  
22 ing “(2)(C)”.

23 (2) Section 63(c) of such Code is amended by  
24 striking paragraph (7).

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after  
3 December 31, 2004.

4 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF 15-PERCENT INDIVIDUAL INCOME**  
5 **TAX RATE BRACKET EXPANSION FOR MAR-**  
6 **RIED TAXPAYERS FILING JOINT RETURNS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 1(f) of  
8 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to phaseout  
9 of marriage penalty in 15-percent bracket) is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 “(8) ELIMINATION OF MARRIAGE PENALTY IN  
12 15-PERCENT BRACKET.—With respect to taxable  
13 years beginning after December 31, 2004, in pre-  
14 scribing the tables under paragraph (1)—

15 “(A) the maximum taxable income in the  
16 15 percent rate bracket in the table contained  
17 in subsection (a) (and the minimum taxable in-  
18 come in the next higher taxable income bracket  
19 in such table) shall be 200 percent of the max-  
20 imum taxable income in the 15-percent rate  
21 bracket in the table contained in subsection (c)  
22 (after any other adjustment under this sub-  
23 section), and

24 “(B) the comparable taxable income  
25 amounts in the table contained in subsection

1 (d) shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the amounts determined  
2 under subparagraph (A).”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for  
4 subsection (f) of section 1 of such Code is amended by  
5 striking “PHASEOUT” and inserting “ELIMINATION”.

6 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
7 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after  
8 December 31, 2004.

9 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF SUNSET.**

10 Title IX of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Rec-  
11 onciliation Act of 2001 shall not apply to the amendments  
12 made by title III of such Act.

Passed the House of Representatives April 28, 2004.

Attest:

*Clerk.*