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LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1023

Introduced by von Gillern, 4; Aguilar, 35; Ballard, 21; Bostar, 29; Brandt, 32; Conrad, 46; DeKay, 40; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Kauth, 31; Linehan, 39; Lowe, 37; Murman, 38; Riepe, 12; Vargas, 7.

Read first time January 05, 2024

Committee: Revenue

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to revenue and taxation; to amend sections 77-2701 and 77-2716, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023; to allow income tax deductions for the cost of certain property and for certain research or experimental expenditures as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska, Section 1. Section 77-2701, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is amended to read:

77-2701 Sections 77-2701 to 77-27,135.01, 77-27,222, 77-27,235, 77-27,236, and 77-27,238 to 77-27,241 and section 3 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967.

Sec. 2. Section 77-2716, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is amended to read:

77-2716 (1) The following adjustments to federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be made for interest or dividends received:

(a)(i) There shall be subtracted interest or dividends received by the owner of obligations of the United States and its territories and possessions or of any authority, commission, or instrumentality of the United States to the extent includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes but exempt from state income taxes under the laws of the United States; and

(ii) There shall be subtracted interest received by the owner of obligations of the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions or authorities which are Build America Bonds to the extent includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes;

(b) There shall be subtracted that portion of the total dividends and other income received from a regulated investment company which is attributable to obligations described in subdivision (a) of this subsection as reported to the recipient by the regulated investment company;

(c) There shall be added interest or dividends received by the owner of obligations of the District of Columbia, other states of the United States, or their political subdivisions, authorities, commissions, or instrumentalities to the extent excluded in the computation of gross income for federal income tax purposes except that such interest or dividends shall not be added if received by a corporation which is a

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regulated investment company;

(d) There shall be added that portion of the total dividends and other income received from a regulated investment company which is attributable to obligations described in subdivision (c) of this subsection and excluded for federal income tax purposes as reported to the recipient by the regulated investment company; and

(e)(i) Any amount subtracted under this subsection shall be reduced by any interest on indebtedness incurred to carry the obligations or securities described in this subsection or the investment in the regulated investment company and by any expenses incurred in the production of interest or dividend income described in this subsection to the extent that such expenses, including amortizable bond premiums, are deductible in determining federal taxable income.

(ii) Any amount added under this subsection shall be reduced by any expenses incurred in the production of such income to the extent disallowed in the computation of federal taxable income.

(2) There shall be allowed a net operating loss derived from or connected with Nebraska sources computed under rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Tax Commissioner consistent, to the extent possible under the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, with the laws of the United States. For a resident individual, estate, or trust, the net operating loss computed on the federal income tax return shall be adjusted by the modifications contained in this section. For a nonresident individual, estate, or trust or for a partial-year resident individual, the net operating loss computed on the federal return shall be adjusted by the modifications contained in this section and any carryovers or carrybacks shall be limited to the portion of the loss derived from or connected with Nebraska sources.

(3) There shall be subtracted from federal adjusted gross income for all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1987, the amount of any state income tax refund to the extent such refund was deducted under

the Internal Revenue Code, was not allowed in the computation of the tax due under the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, and is included in federal adjusted gross income.

(4) Federal adjusted gross income, or, for a fiduciary, federal taxable income shall be modified to exclude the portion of the income or loss received from a small business corporation with an election in effect under subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code or from a limited liability company organized pursuant to the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act that is not derived from or connected with Nebraska sources as determined in section 77-2734.01.

(5) There shall be subtracted from federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income dividends received or deemed to be received from corporations which are not subject to the Internal Revenue Code.

(6) There shall be subtracted from federal taxable income a portion of the income earned by a corporation subject to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is actually taxed by a foreign country or one of its political subdivisions at a rate in excess of the maximum federal tax rate for corporations. The taxpayer may make the computation for each foreign country or for groups of foreign countries. The portion of the taxes that may be deducted shall be computed in the following manner:

(a) The amount of federal taxable income from operations within a foreign taxing jurisdiction shall be reduced by the amount of taxes actually paid to the foreign jurisdiction that are not deductible solely because the foreign tax credit was elected on the federal income tax return;

(b) The amount of after-tax income shall be divided by one minus the maximum tax rate for corporations in the Internal Revenue Code; and

(c) The result of the calculation in subdivision (b) of this subsection shall be subtracted from the amount of federal taxable income used in subdivision (a) of this subsection. The result of such calculation, if greater than zero, shall be subtracted from federal taxable income.

(7) Federal adjusted gross income shall be modified to exclude any amount repaid by the taxpayer for which a reduction in federal tax is allowed under section 1341(a)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(8)(a) Federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be reduced, to the extent included, by income from interest, earnings, and state contributions received from the Nebraska educational savings plan trust created in sections 85-1801 to 85-1817 and any account established under the achieving a better life experience program as provided in sections 77-1401 to 77-1409.

(b) Federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be reduced by any contributions as a participant in the Nebraska educational savings plan trust or contributions to an account established under the achieving a better life experience program made for the benefit of a beneficiary as provided in sections 77-1401 to 77-1409, to the extent not deducted for federal income tax purposes, but not to exceed five thousand dollars per married filing separate return or ten thousand dollars for any other return. With respect to a qualified rollover within the meaning of section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code from another state's plan, any interest, earnings, and state contributions received from the other state's educational savings plan which is qualified under section 529 of the code shall qualify for the reduction provided in this subdivision. For contributions by a custodian of a custodial account including rollovers from another custodial account, the reduction shall only apply to funds added to the custodial account after January 1, 2014.

(c) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2021, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced, to the extent included in the adjusted gross income of an individual, by the amount of any contribution made by the individual's employer into an account under the Nebraska educational savings plan trust owned by the individual, not to exceed five thousand dollars per married filing separate return or ten thousand dollars for any other return.

(d) Federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be increased by:

(i) The amount resulting from the cancellation of a participation agreement refunded to the taxpayer as a participant in the Nebraska educational savings plan trust to the extent previously deducted under subdivision (8)(b) of this section; and

(ii) The amount of any withdrawals by the owner of an account established under the achieving a better life experience program as provided in sections 77-1401 to 77-1409 for nonqualified expenses to the extent previously deducted under subdivision (8)(b) of this section.

(9)(a) For income tax returns filed after September 10, 2001, for taxable years beginning or deemed to begin before January 1, 2006, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be increased by eighty-five percent of any amount of any federal bonus depreciation received under the federal Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002 or the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003, under section 168(k) or section 1400L of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, for assets placed in service after September 10, 2001, and before December 31, 2005.

(b) For a partnership, limited liability company, cooperative, including any cooperative exempt from income taxes under section 521 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, limited cooperative association, subchapter S corporation, or joint venture, the increase shall be distributed to the partners, members, shareholders, patrons, or beneficiaries in the same manner as income is distributed for use against their income tax liabilities.

(c) For a corporation with a unitary business having activity both inside and outside the state, the increase shall be apportioned to Nebraska in the same manner as income is apportioned to the state by section 77-2734.05.

(d) The amount of bonus depreciation added to federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income by this subsection shall be subtracted in a later taxable year. Twenty percent of the total amount of bonus depreciation added back by this subsection for tax years beginning or deemed to begin before January 1, 2003, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, may be subtracted in the first taxable year beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2005, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and twenty percent in each of the next four following taxable years. Twenty percent of the total amount of bonus depreciation added back by this subsection for tax years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2003, may be subtracted in the first taxable year beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2006, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and twenty percent in each of the next four following taxable years.

(10) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2003, and before January 1, 2006, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be increased by the amount of any capital investment that is expensed under section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that is in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars that is allowed under the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003. Twenty percent of the total amount of expensing added back by this subsection for tax years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2003, may be subtracted in the first taxable year beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2006,

under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and twenty percent in each of the next four following tax years.

(11)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin before January 1, 2018, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by contributions, up to two thousand dollars per married filing jointly return or one thousand dollars for any other return, and any investment earnings made as a participant in the Nebraska long-term care savings plan under the Long-Term Care Savings Plan Act, to the extent not deducted for federal income tax purposes.

(b) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin before January 1, 2018, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income shall be increased by the withdrawals made as a participant in the Nebraska long-term care savings plan under the act by a person who is not a qualified individual or for any reason other than transfer of funds to a spouse, long-term care expenses, long-term care insurance premiums, or death of the participant, including withdrawals made by reason of cancellation of the participation agreement, to the extent previously deducted as a contribution or as investment earnings.

(12) There shall be added to federal adjusted gross income for individuals, estates, and trusts any amount taken as a credit for franchise tax paid by a financial institution under sections 77-3801 to 77-3807 as allowed by subsection (5) of section 77-2715.07.

(13)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by the amount received as benefits under the federal Social Security Act which are included in the federal adjusted gross income if:

(i) For taxpayers filing a married filing joint return, federal adjusted gross income is fifty-eight thousand dollars or less; or

(ii) For taxpayers filing any other return, federal adjusted gross income is forty-three thousand dollars or less.

(b) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the Tax Commissioner shall adjust the dollar amounts provided in subdivisions (13)(a)(i) and (ii) of this section by the same percentage used to adjust individual income tax brackets under subsection (3) of section 77-2715.03.

(c) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2021, and before January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, a taxpayer may claim the reduction to federal adjusted gross income allowed under this subsection or the reduction to federal adjusted gross income allowed under subsection (14) of this section, whichever provides the greater reduction.

(14)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2021, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by a percentage of the social security benefits that are received and included in federal adjusted gross income. The pertinent percentage shall be:

(i) Five percent for taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2021, and before January 1, 2022, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

(ii) Forty percent for taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2022, and before January 1, 2023, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

(iii) Sixty percent for taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2023, and before January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; and

(iv) One hundred percent for taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, social security benefits means benefits received under the federal Social Security Act.

(c) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2021, and before January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, a taxpayer may claim the reduction to federal adjusted gross income allowed under this subsection or the reduction to federal adjusted gross income allowed under subsection (13) of this section, whichever provides the greater reduction.

(15)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2022, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, an individual may make a one-time election within two calendar years after the date of his or her retirement from the military to exclude income received as a military retirement benefit by the individual to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income and as provided in this subdivision. The individual may elect to exclude forty percent of his or her military retirement benefit income for seven consecutive taxable years beginning with the year in which the election is made or may elect to exclude fifteen percent of his or her military retirement benefit income for all taxable years beginning with the year in which he or she turns sixty-seven years of age.

(b) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2022, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, an individual may exclude one hundred percent of the military retirement benefit income received by such individual to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income.

(c) For purposes of this subsection, military retirement benefit means retirement benefits that are periodic payments attributable to service in the uniformed services of the United States for personal services performed by an individual prior to his or her retirement. The term includes retirement benefits described in this subdivision that are reported to the individual on either:

(i) An Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-R received from the United

States Department of Defense; or

(ii) An Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-R received from the United States Office of Personnel Management.

(16) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2021, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by the amount received as a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, to the extent such amount is included in federal adjusted gross income.

(17) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2022, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by the amount received by or on behalf of a firefighter for cancer benefits under the Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income.

(18) There shall be subtracted from the federal adjusted gross income of individuals any amount received by the individual as student loan repayment assistance under the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, to the extent such amount is included in federal adjusted gross income.

(19) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2023, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, a retired individual who was employed full time as a firefighter or certified law enforcement officer for at least twenty years and who is at least sixty years of age as of the end of the taxable year may reduce his or her federal adjusted gross income by the amount of health insurance premiums paid by such individual during the taxable year, to the extent such premiums were not already deducted in determining the individual's federal adjusted gross income.

(20) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, an individual may reduce his or her federal adjusted gross income by the amounts received as annuities under the Federal Employees Retirement

System or the Civil Service Retirement System which were earned for being employed by the federal government, to the extent such amounts are included in federal adjusted gross income.

(21) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2025, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be reduced by the amounts allowed to be deducted pursuant to section 3 of this act.

Sec. 3. (1) For purposes of this section:

(a) Full expensing means a method for taxpayers to recover their costs for certain expenditures in depreciable business assets by immediately deducting the full cost of such expenditures in the tax year in which the property is placed in service;

(b) Internal Revenue Code means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

(c) Qualified improvement property has the same meaning as in section 168(e)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2024;

(d) Qualified property has the same meaning as in section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2024; and

(e) Research or experimental expenditures has the same meaning as in 26 C.F.R. 1.174-2.

(2)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2025, the cost of expenditures for business assets that are qualified property or qualified improvement property covered under section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code shall be eligible for full expensing and may be deducted as an expense incurred by the taxpayer during the taxable year during which the property is placed in service, notwithstanding any changes to federal law related to depreciation of property beginning January 1, 2023, or on any other date. Such deduction shall be allowed only to the extent that such cost has not already been deducted in determining federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income.

(b) If the taxpayer does not fully expense the costs described in this subsection in the taxable year in which the property is placed in service, the taxpayer may elect to depreciate the costs over a five-year irrevocable term.

(3)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2025, a taxpayer may elect to treat research or experimental expenditures which are paid or incurred by the taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the taxpayer's trade or business as expenses which are not chargeable to the capital account. The expenditures so treated shall be allowed as a deduction, notwithstanding any changes to the Internal Revenue Code related to the amortization of such research or experimental expenditures. Such deduction shall be allowed only to the extent that such research or experimental expenditures have not already been deducted in determining federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income.

(b) If the taxpayer does not fully deduct the research or experimental expenditures in the taxable year in which the expenditures are paid or incurred, the taxpayer may elect to amortize the expenditures over a five-year irrevocable term.

(4) If a deduction under this section is for a corporation having an election in effect under subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code, a partnership, a limited liability company, an estate, or a trust, the deduction may be claimed by the shareholders, partners, members, or beneficiaries in the same manner as those shareholders, partners, members, or beneficiaries account for their proportionate shares of the income or losses of the corporation, partnership, limited liability company, estate, or trust.

(5) The Department of Revenue may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to implement this section.

Sec. 4. Original sections 77-2701 and 77-2716, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, are repealed.