

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

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Person to Contact:

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Date:

February 23, 1999

X =

A =

B =

D1 =

Year 1 =

Year 2 =

Dear :

This letter responds to a letter dated November 17, 1998, and subsequent correspondence, written on behalf of X by its authorized representative requesting a ruling under § 1362(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The information submitted states that X was incorporated on D1. A and B, the sole shareholders of X, intended that X elect to be an S corporation beginning Year 1, its first taxable year. X relied on an employee of A to file the necessary papers. However, a Form 2553, Election by a Small Business Corporation, for X's first taxable year was not filed timely for that year. For Year 1 through Year 2, X filed Form 1120S, U.S. Income Tax Return for an S Corporation for X. A and B each filed Form 1040 (U.S. Individual Income Tax Return) consistent with X being an S corporation. B, as X's president, represents that it was not until Year 2 that X discovered that the service center did not have a Form 2553 for X. In an affidavit, an employee for X states that it was the intention of shareholders that X elect to be an S corporation and it was his responsibility to file the necessary forms regarding X's election.

Section 1362(b)(5) of the Code provides that if -- (A) an election under § 1362(a) is made for any taxable year after the date prescribed by § 1362(b) for making such election for such taxable year or no such election is made for any taxable year, and (B) the Secretary determines that there was reasonable cause for the failure to timely make such election, the Secretary may treat such an election as timely made for such taxable year.

Based solely on the facts and the representations submitted, we conclude that X has established reasonable cause for failing to make a timely election to be an S corporation for X's first taxable year. Accordingly, provided that X makes an election to be an S corporation by filing a completed Form 2553 with the appropriate service center effective for its Year 1 taxable year, within 60 days following the date of this letter, then such election will be treated as timely made for X's Year 1 taxable year. A copy of this letter should be attached to the Form 2553.

Except as specifically set forth above, no opinion is expressed concerning the federal tax consequences of the facts described above under any other provision of the Code, including whether X was or is a small business corporation under § 1361(b) of the Code.

This ruling is directed only to the taxpayer who requested it. Section 6110(k)(3) of the Code provides that it may not be used or cited as precedent.

Pursuant to a power of attorney on file with this office, a copy of this letter is being sent to your authorized representative.

Sincerely yours,

J. THOMAS HINES
Senior Technician Reviewer
Branch 2
Office of the Assistant
Chief Counsel
(Passthroughs and
Special Industries)

Enclosures: 2
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