LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-sixth Legislature Second Regular Session - 2022

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 509

BY REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT
RELATING TO TAXATION; AMENDING SECTION 63-3024A, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING FOOD TAX CREDITS AND REFUNDS; AMENDING SECTION 57-811, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE TAX RELIEF FUND; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 63-3024A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

63-3024A. FOOD TAX CREDITS AND REFUNDS. (1) Any resident individual who is required to file and who has filed an Idaho income tax return shall be allowed a credit against taxes due under the Idaho income tax act for the taxpayer, the taxpayer's spouse, and each dependent, as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code, claimed on the taxpayer's Idaho income tax return, and awarded by the court under section 32-706, Idaho Code, if applicable. For tax years 2015 and after 2022, the credit is one hundred dollars ($100). For tax years 2023 and after, the credit is one hundred twenty dollars ($120). If taxes due are less than the total credit allowed, the taxpayer shall be paid a refund equal to the balance of the unused credit.

(2) A resident individual who is not required to file an Idaho income tax return and for whom no credit or refund is allowed under any other subsection of this section shall, subject to the limitations of subsections (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8) of this section, be entitled to a refund in the amount provided in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) A resident individual who has reached his sixty-fifth birthday before the end of his taxable year and who has claimed the credit available under subsection (1) of this section, in addition to the amount of credit or refund due under subsection (1) of this section, shall be entitled to twenty dollars ($20.00), which shall be claimed as a credit against any taxes due under the Idaho income tax act. If taxes due are less than the total credit allowed, the individual shall be paid a refund equal to the balance of the unused credit.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (9) of this section, a credit or refund under this section is only available if the individual for whom a personal exemption is claimed is a resident of the state of Idaho.

(5) In no event shall more than one (1) taxpayer be allowed a credit or refund for the same personal exemption, or under more than one (1) subsection of this section.

(6) In the event that a credit or refund is attributable to any individual for whom assistance under the federal food stamp program was received for any month or part of a month during the taxable year for which the credit or refund is claimed, the credit or refund allowed under this section shall be
in proportion to the number of months of the year in which no assistance was received.

(7) In the event that a credit or refund is attributable to any individual who has been incarcerated for any month or part of a month during the taxable year for which the credit or refund is claimed, the credit or refund allowed under this section shall be in proportion to the number of months of the year in which the individual was not incarcerated.

(8) No credit or refund shall be paid that is attributable to an individual residing illegally in the United States.

(9) Any part-year resident entitled to a credit under this section shall receive a proportionate credit reflecting the part of the year in which he was domiciled in this state.

(10) Any refund shall be paid to such individual only upon his making application therefor, at such time and in such manner as may be prescribed by the state tax commission. The state tax commission shall prescribe the method by which the refund is to be made to the taxpayer. The refunds authorized by this section shall be paid from the state refund fund in the same manner as the refunds authorized by section 63-3067, Idaho Code.

(11) An application for any refund that is due and payable under the provisions of this section must be filed with the state tax commission within three (3) years of:

(a) The due date, including extensions, of the return required under section 63-3030, Idaho Code, if the applicant is required to file a return; or

(b) The fifteenth day of April of the year following the year to which the application relates if the applicant is not required to file a return.

(12) The state tax commission shall provide income tax payers with the irrevocable option of donating credited funds accruing pursuant to this section. Any funds so donated shall be remitted from the refund fund to the cooperative welfare fund, created pursuant to section 56-401, Idaho Code, and shall be used solely for the purpose of providing low-income Idahoans with assistance in paying home energy costs.

SECTION 2. That Section 57-811, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

57-811. TAX RELIEF FUND. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the tax relief fund to which shall be credited all moneys remitted from sections 63-3620F and 63-3638, Idaho Code, from federal grants, donations, or any other source. Moneys in the fund are intended to fund future tax relief statutes enacted by the legislature and may be expended pursuant to appropriation. All interest earned on the investment of idle moneys in the fund shall be returned to the fund.

(2) On July 15, 2021, the state controller shall transfer one hundred eighty million dollars ($180,000,000) from the tax relief fund to the 2021 Idaho tax rebate fund.

(3) For fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the state controller shall transfer one hundred ten million dollars ($110,000,000) from the tax relief fund to the general fund.
(4) In addition to any other transfers authorized under this section, for fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter, the state controller shall transfer up to thirty-two million dollars ($32,000,000) from the tax relief fund to the general fund.

SECTION 3. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its passage and approval.