

bility that they may be considered as engaged in a trade or business in the United States, this does not mean that all such dealers or investment companies are so engaged. Whether a dealer or investment company is conducting a trade or business in the United States remains a question of fact to be determined under the rules under present law.

(d) *Effective date.*—These amendments apply with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1966.

2. *Income effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States (sec. 2(d) of the bill and sec. 864(c) of the code)*

(a) *Present law.*—Under present law nonresident aliens and foreign corporations are generally taxable at the regular individual or corporate rates on all their U.S. source income if they are engaged in trade or business in the United States and are taxable at a flat 30-percent rate (or lower treaty rate) on all fixed or determinable income if not so engaged. This difference in treatment applies whether or not there is any relationship between the different types of income (business and investment) from the United States.

(b) *Reasons for provision.*—Under the rule described above, one foreigner may be taxed on investment income at the regular individual or corporate rates while another, with an identical portfolio investment, is taxed on his investment income at the flat 30-percent (or lower treaty) rate. The difference in treatment arises from the fact that one is engaged in business in the United States and the other is not, even though the investment portfolio of the former is wholly unrelated to his U.S. business. Your committee believes it is neither equitable nor logical for this substantial difference in tax treatment of investment income to depend on the presence or absence of an unrelated business. In addition, the Presidential Task Force on Promoting Increased Foreign Investment in U.S. Corporate Securities has pointed out that the present scheme deters foreign businessmen operating in the United States from investing in the United States, and also deters foreigners already investing in the United States from commencing a trade or business here.

The present scheme for taxing foreigners engaged in business in the United States also is defective in another respect. The interplay between the tax rules of certain foreign countries and the United States has in some cases permitted the use of the United States as a tax haven. The tax avoidance in such a case can be illustrated by a foreign corporation which is organized in a country which does not tax its domestic corporations on income derived from the conduct of a business outside the country. If such a corporation desires to sell products in countries, other than the United States or the country of its incorporation, it can, in many instances, avoid all or most taxation on the income from these sales by establishing a sales office in United States. The income from the sales in such cases is not taxed by the United States because (under the title passage rule) it is not derived from sources within the United States. The income may not be taxed by countries where the products are sold because the corporation does not have a permanent establishment there, and the income is not taxed by the country of incorporation because the business is not conducted there. Similar tax avoidance may be practiced in the case