§ 353.8 Chain letters prohibited.

The issuance of bonds in the furtherance of a chain letter or pyramid scheme is considered to be against the public interest and is prohibited.

Subpart C—Limitations on Annual Purchases

§ 353.10 Amounts which may be purchased.

The amount of savings bonds of Series EE and HH which may be purchased and held, in the name of any one person in any one calendar year, is computed according to the provisions of §353.11 and is limited as follows:

(a) **Series EE**—(1) **General annual limitation.** $5,000 (principal amount).

(2) **Special limitation.** $4,000 (face amount) multiplied by the highest number of employees participating in an eligible employee plan, as defined in §353.13, at any time during the calendar year in which the bonds are issued.

(b) **Series HH**—(1) **General annual limitation.** $20,000 (face amount).

(2) **Special limitation.** $200,000 (face amount) for bonds received in an authorized exchange or reinvestment; and

§ 353.11 Computation of amount.

(a) **General.** The purchases of bonds in the name of any person in an individual capacity are computed separately from purchases in a fiduciary capacity. A pension or retirement fund, or an investment, insurance, annuity, or similar fund or trust is regarded as an entity, regardless of the number of beneficiaries or the manner in which their shares or interests are established, determined, or segregated.

(b) **Bonds included in computation.** In computing the purchases for each person, the following outstanding bonds are included:

1. All bonds registered in the name of that person alone;
2. All bonds registered in the name of the representative of the estate of that person; and
3. All bonds registered in the name of that person as first-named coowner.

(c) **Bonds excluded from computation.** In computing the purchases for each person, the following are excluded:

1. Bonds on which that person is named beneficiary;
2. Bonds to which that person has become entitled—
   (i) Under §353.70 as surviving beneficiary upon the death of the registered owner;
   (ii) As an heir or a legatee of the deceased owner;
   (iii) By virtue of the termination of a trust or the happening of a similar event;
3. Bonds issued in an authorized exchange or reinvestment; and
4. Bonds that are purchased and redeemed within the same calendar year.

§ 353.12 Disposition of excess.

If any person at any time has savings bonds issued during any one calendar year in excess of the prescribed amount, the Bureau of the Public Debt reserves the right to take any action that it deems necessary to adjust the excess. Instructions for adjustment of the excess can be obtained by email at savbonds@bpd.treas.gov or by writing to Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, WV 26106–1328.

§ 353.13 Employee plans—Conditions of eligibility.

(a) **Definition of plan.** Employee thrift, savings, vacation and similar plans are contributory plans established by the employer for the exclusive and irrevocable benefit of its employees or their beneficiaries. Each plan must afford employees the means of making regular savings from their wages through payroll deductions and provide for employer contributions to be added to these savings.