

SUBCHAPTER XLIII—CATAWBA TRIBE OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA: DIVISION OF ASSETS

**§§ 931 to 938. Repealed. Pub. L. 103-116, §4(c),  
Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1121**

Section 931, Pub. L. 86-322, §1, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 592, related to publication of notice of agreement to division of assets, closure of roll, preparation of roll, protest against inclusion or omission from roll, finality of determinations, and final publication.

Section 932, Pub. L. 86-322, §2, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 592, related to personal property rights of enrolled members and restrictions on alienation.

Section 933, Pub. L. 86-322, §3, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 592, related to distribution of tribal assets.

Section 934, Pub. L. 86-322, §4, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 593, related to land surveys and execution of conveyances by Secretary and title of grantees.

Section 935, Pub. L. 86-322, §5, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 593, related to revocation of tribal constitution, termination of Federal services, application of Federal and State laws, and effect on citizenship status.

Section 936, Pub. L. 86-322, §6, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 593, provided that rights, privileges, and obligations under South Carolina laws would be unaffected.

Section 937, Pub. L. 86-322, §7, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 593, related to applicability of Federal or State income taxes on distributed property.

Section 938, Pub. L. 86-322, §8, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 594, related to education and training program, purposes, subjects, transportation, subsistence, contracts, and other education programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

For effective date of repeal, see section 17 of Pub. L. 103-116, set out as an Effective Date note under section 941 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER XLIII-A—CATAWBA INDIAN  
TRIBE OF SOUTH CAROLINA; RESTORA-  
TION OF FEDERAL TRUST RELATIONSHIP

**§ 941. Declaration of policy, Congressional find-  
ings and purpose**

**(a) Findings**

The Congress declares and finds that:

(1) It is the policy of the United States to promote tribal self-determination and economic self-sufficiency and to support the resolution of disputes over historical claims through settlements mutually agreed to by Indian and non-Indian parties.

(2) There is pending before the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina a lawsuit disputing ownership of approximately 140,000 acres of land in the State of South Carolina and other rights of the Catawba Indian Tribe under Federal law.

(3) The Catawba Indian Tribe initiated a related lawsuit against the United States in the United States Court of Federal Claims seeking monetary damages.

(4) Some of the significant historical events which have led to the present situation include:

(A) In treaties with the Crown in 1760 and 1763, the Tribe ceded vast portions of its aboriginal territory in the present States of North and South Carolina in return for guarantees of being quietly settled on a 144,000-acre reservation.

(B) The Tribe's district court suit contended that in 1840 the Tribe and the State

entered into an agreement without Federal approval or participation whereby the Tribe ceded its treaty reservation to the State, thereby giving rise to the Tribe's claim that it was dispossessed of its lands in violation of Federal law.

(C) In 1943, the United States entered into an agreement with the Tribe and the State to provide services to the Tribe and its members. The State purchased 3,434 acres of land and conveyed it to the Secretary in trust for the Tribe and the Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act [25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.].

(D) In 1959, when Congress enacted the Catawba Tribe of South Carolina Division of Assets Act (25 U.S.C. 931-938), Federal agents assured the Tribe that if the Tribe would release the Government from its obligation under the 1943 agreement and agree to Federal legislation terminating the Federal trust relationship and liquidating the 1943 reservation, the status of the Tribe's land claim would not be jeopardized by termination.

(E) In 1980, the Tribe initiated Federal court litigation to regain possession of its treaty lands and in 1986, the United States Supreme Court ruled in South Carolina against Catawba Indian Tribe that the 1959 Act resulted in the application of State statutes of limitations to the Tribe's land claim. Two subsequent decisions of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit have held that some portion of the Tribe's claim is barred by State statutes of limitations and that some portion is not barred.

(5) The pendency of these lawsuits has led to substantial economic and social hardship for a large number of landowners, citizens and communities in the State of South Carolina, including the Catawba Indian Tribe. Congress recognizes that if these claims are not resolved, further litigation against tens of thousands of landowners would be likely; that any final resolution of pending disputes through a process of litigation would take many years and entail great expenses to all parties; continue economically and socially damaging controversies; prolong uncertainty as to the ownership of property; and seriously impair long-term economic planning and development for all parties.

(6) The 102d Congress has enacted legislation suspending until October 1, 1993, the running of any unexpired statute of limitation applicable to the Tribe's land claim in order to provide additional time to negotiate settlement of these claims.

(7) It is recognized that both Indian and non-Indian parties enter into this settlement to resolve the disputes raised in these lawsuits and to derive certain benefits. The parties' Settlement Agreement constitutes a good faith effort to resolve these lawsuits and other claims and requires implementing legislation by the Congress of the United States, the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, and the governing bodies of the South Carolina counties of York and Lancaster.

(8) To advance the goals of the Federal policy of Indian self-determination and restoration of terminated Indian Tribes, and in recognition of the United States obligation to the Tribe and the Federal policy of settling historical Indian claims through comprehensive settlement agreements, it is appropriate that the United States participate in the funding and implementation of the Settlement Agreement.

**(b) Purpose**

It is the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) to approve, ratify, and confirm the Settlement Agreement entered into by the non-Indian settlement parties and the Tribe, except as otherwise provided by this subchapter;

(2) to authorize and direct the Secretary to implement the terms of such Settlement Agreement;

(3) to authorize the actions and appropriations necessary to implement the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and this subchapter;

(4) to remove the cloud on titles in the State of South Carolina resulting from the Tribe's land claim; and

(5) to restore the trust relationship between the Tribe and the United States.

(Pub. L. 103-116, § 2, Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1118.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Reorganization Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(4)(C), is act June 18, 1934, ch. 576, 48 Stat. 984, as amended, which is classified generally to subchapter V (§ 461 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 461 of this title and Tables.

The Catawba Tribe of South Carolina Division of Assets Act and the 1959 Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(4)(D), (E), probably mean Pub. L. 86-322, Sept. 21, 1959, 73 Stat. 592, which was classified generally to subchapter XLIII (§ 931 et seq.) of this chapter prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103-116, § 4(c), Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1121.

Legislation suspending until October 1, 1993, the running of any unexpired statute of limitation applicable to the Tribe's land claim, referred to in subsec. (a)(6), is Pub. L. 102-339, § 3, Aug. 11, 1992, 106 Stat. 869, which is not classified to the Code.

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 103-116, Oct. 27, 1993, 107 Stat. 1118, known as the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993, which is classified generally to this subchapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 17 of Pub. L. 103-116 provided that: "Except for sections 7, 8, and 12 [enacting sections 941e, 941f and 941j of this title], the provisions of this Act [see Short Title note below] shall become effective upon the transfer of the Existing Reservation under section 12 [enacting section 941j of this title] to the Secretary."

[In accordance with the provisions of Pub. L. 103-116, a quitclaim deed transferring the existing reservation to the United States as Trustee for the Tribe was executed on Nov. 29, 1993. This conveyance was accepted on behalf of the United States, in trust, on Jan. 19, 1994. The deed was recorded Jan. 20, 1994.]

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 103-116 provided that: "This Act [enacting this subchapter and repealing subchapter XLIII (§ 931 et seq.) of this chapter] may be cited as the 'Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993'."

**§ 941a. Definitions**

For purposes of this subchapter:

(1) The term "Tribe" means the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina as constituted in aboriginal times, which was party to the Treaty of Pine Tree Hill in 1760 as confirmed by the Treaty of Augusta in 1763, which was party also to the Treaty of Nation Ford in 1840, and which was the subject of the Termination Act, and all predecessors and successors in interest, including the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina, Inc.

(2) The term "claim" or "claims" means any claim which was asserted by the Tribe in either Suit, and any other claim which could have been asserted by the Tribe or any Catawba Indian of a right, title or interest in property, to trespass or property damages, or of hunting, fishing or other rights to natural resources, if such claim is based upon aboriginal title, recognized title, or title by grant, patent, or treaty including the Treaty of Pine Tree Hill of 1760, the Treaty of Augusta of 1763, or the Treaty of Nation Ford of 1840.

(3) The term "Executive Committee" means the body of the Tribe composed of the Tribe's executive officers as selected by the Tribe in accordance with its constitution.

(4) The term "Existing Reservation" means that tract of approximately 630 acres conveyed to the State in trust for the Tribe by J.M. Doby on December 24, 1842, by deed recorded in York County Deed Book N, pp. 340-341.

(5) The term "General Council" means the membership of the Tribe convened as the Tribe's governing body for the purpose of conducting tribal business pursuant to the Tribe's constitution.

(6) The term "Member" means individuals who are currently members of the Tribe or who are enrolled in accordance with this subchapter.

(7) The term "Reservation" or "Expanded Reservation" means the Existing Reservation and the lands added to the Existing Reservation in accordance with section 941j of this title, which are to be held in trust by the Secretary in accordance with this subchapter.

(8) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(9) The term "service area" means the area composed of the State of South Carolina and Cabarrus, Cleveland, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Rutherford, and Union counties in the State of North Carolina.

(10) The term "Settlement Agreement" means the document entitled "Agreement in Principle" between the Tribe and the State of South Carolina and attached to the copy of the State Act and filed with the Secretary of State of the State of South Carolina, as amended to conform to this subchapter and printed in the Congressional Record.

(11) The term "State" means, except for section 941d(a) through (f) of this title, the State of South Carolina.

(12) The term "State Act" means the Act enacted into law by the State of South Carolina on June 14, 1993, and codified as S.C. Code Ann., sections 27-16-10 through 27-16-140, to implement the Settlement Agreement.