

§ 1774c. Responsibilities and restrictions**(a) Seneca Nation**

The Congress finds that the Seneca Nation is solely responsible for negotiation of the leases under the Agreement in its own interest and approval of any such lease by the United States is not required.

(b) Lessees

The Congress finds that—

(1) the lessees of leases with the Seneca Nation are responsible for representing their own interest in lease negotiations with the Seneca Nation; and

(2) nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to prevent the lessees from collectively negotiating with the Seneca Nation regarding such leases, whether through informal groups or as delegations formally sanctioned by either the State or local governments.

(c) United States

(1) The United States shall not serve in a capacity to approve leases of the Seneca Nation.

(2) Federal funds may not be obligated or expended, directly or indirectly, for annual payments under any such lease, except for funds that may be available under a conventional, nationwide program.

(d) State

(1) The State shall not serve in a capacity to approve leases of the Seneca Nation.

(2) State funds may not be obligated or expended, directly or indirectly, for annual payments under any such lease.

(Pub. L. 101-503, § 5, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1295.)

§ 1774d. Settlement funds**(a) In general**

In recognition of the findings and purposes specified in section 1774 of this title, the settlement funds provided pursuant to this subchapter shall be provided by the United States and the State. The Secretary may not obligate or expend funds provided under subsection (b) of this section until the Secretary determines that there is an agreed upon and signed memorandum of understanding.

(b) Funds provided by United States**(1) Cash payment**

The Secretary shall pay to the Seneca Nation the amount of \$30,000,000, which is the Federal share of the cash payment to be managed, invested, and used by the Nation to further specific objectives of the Nation and its members, all as determined by the Nation in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the Nation.

(2) Economic development

(A) In addition to the amount provided under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall pay to the Seneca Nation the amount of \$5,000,000 to be used for the economic and community development of the Seneca Nation, including the city of Salamanca, which is an integral part of the Seneca Nation's Allegany Reservation. Such amount shall be deposited by the Sec-

retary, administered, and disbursed in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(B)(i) The sum of \$2,000,000 shall be deposited in a separate interest bearing account of the Seneca Nation. The account shall be administered, and the principal and interest thereon disbursed, by the Seneca Nation in accordance with a plan approved by the Council of the Seneca Nation to promote the economic and community development of the Seneca Nation. Until the principal is expended pursuant to such plan, the income accruing from such sum shall be disbursed to the treasurer of the Seneca Nation on a quarterly basis to fund tribal government operations and to provide for the general welfare of the Seneca Nation and its members. The Seneca Nation may in its discretion add the accrued income to the principal.

(ii) The sum of \$3,000,000 shall be deposited in an escrow account which shall be owned by the Seneca Nation. The escrow agent shall be selected by agreement of the Seneca Nation and the city. The escrow account shall remain in existence for a period of ten years from the date on which the principal is deposited or until all payments provided for under section V.D. of the Agreement have been made. The escrow account shall be held and disbursed for economic and community development as set forth in section V.D. of the Agreement. Upon the expiration of the ten-year period, the \$3,000,000 principal shall be disbursed in accordance with a plan approved by the Council of the Seneca Nation to promote the economic and community development of the Seneca Nation.

(c) Funds to be provided by State

The State, in accordance with its laws and regulations, shall provide the sum of \$16,000,000 in cash payments and \$9,000,000 for economic or community development subject to the provisions of the memorandum of understanding.

(d) Time of payments

The payments required by this section on the part of the United States shall be made within 30 days of the Secretary's determination that the Seneca Nation has complied with section 1774b of this title, or upon the availability of the amounts necessary to carry out this subchapter, if such determination has previously been made. If the Secretary determines that the Seneca Nation has not complied with section 1774b of this title, he shall advise the Seneca Nation in writing of all steps it must take to comply.

(e) Limitation

The only amounts available to carry out this subchapter shall be those amounts specifically appropriated by the Congress or the legislature of the State to carry out this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 101-503, § 6, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1295.)

§ 1774e. Conditions precedent to payment of United States and State funds

Amounts may not be expended from—

(1) the \$30,000,000 and the \$5,000,000 provided by the United States under section 1774d(b) of this title, and

(2) the \$16,000,000 and \$9,000,000 provided by the State under section 1774d(c) of this title, until after the authorized officials of the Seneca Nation execute new leases with all lessees who accept the Seneca Nation's offer of a new lease, as filed with the Secretary under section 1774b(a) of this title, and execute appropriate documents relinquishing all claims for payment of annual rents prior to February 20, 1991, with respect to such leases.

(Pub. L. 101-503, § 7, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1296.)

§ 1774f. Miscellaneous provisions

(a) Liens and forfeitures, etc.

Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the provisions of section 1407 of this title shall apply to any payment of funds authorized to be appropriated under this subchapter and made to individual members of the Seneca Nation. None of the payments, funds, or distributions authorized, established, or directed by this subchapter, and none of the income derived therefrom, which may be received under this subchapter by the Seneca Nation or individual members of the Seneca Nation, shall be subject to levy, execution, forfeiture, garnishment, lien, encumbrance, seizure, or State or local taxation.

(b) Eligibility for Government programs

None of the payments, funds or distributions authorized, established, or directed by this subchapter, and none of the income derived therefrom, shall affect the eligibility of the Seneca Nation or its members for, or be used as a basis for denying or reducing funds under, any Federal program.

(c) Land acquisition

Land within its aboriginal area in the State or situated within or near proximity to former reservation land may be acquired by the Seneca Nation with funds appropriated pursuant to this subchapter. State and local governments shall have a period of 30 days after notification by the Secretary or the Seneca Nation of acquisition of, or intent to acquire such lands to comment on the impact of the removal of such lands from real property tax rolls of State political subdivisions. Unless the Secretary determines within 30 days after the comment period that such lands should not be subject to the provisions of section 2116 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 177), such lands shall be subject to the provisions of that Act¹ and shall be held in restricted fee status by the Seneca Nation. Based on the proximity of the land acquired to the Seneca Nation's reservations, land acquired may become a part of and expand the boundaries of the Allegheny Reservation, the Cattaraugus Reservation, or the Oil Spring Reservation in accordance with the procedures established by the Secretary for this purpose.

(Pub. L. 101-503, § 8, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1296.)

§ 1774g. Limitation of action

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any action to contest the constitutionality or

validity under law of this subchapter shall be barred unless the action is filed on or before the date which is 180 days after November 3, 1990. Exclusive jurisdiction over any such action is hereby vested in the United States District Court for the Western District of New York.

(Pub. L. 101-503, § 9, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1297.)

§ 1774h. Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 101-503, § 10, Nov. 3, 1990, 104 Stat. 1297.)

SUBCHAPTER IX—MOHEGAN NATION (CONNECTICUT) LAND CLAIMS SETTLEMENT

§ 1775. Findings and purposes

(a) Findings

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut received recognition by the United States pursuant to the administrative process under part 83 of title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) The Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut is the successor in interest to the aboriginal entity known as the Mohegan Indian Tribe.

(3) The Mohegan Tribe has existed in the geographic area that is currently the State of Connecticut for a long period preceding the colonial period of the history of the United States.

(4) Certain lands were sequestered as tribal lands by the Colony of Connecticut and subsequently by the State of Connecticut.

(5) The Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut v. State of Connecticut, et al. (Civil Action No. H-77-434, pending before the United States District Court for the Southern District of Connecticut) relates to the ownership of certain lands within the State of Connecticut.

(6) Such action will likely result in economic hardships for residents of the State of Connecticut, including residents of the town of Montville, Connecticut, by encumbering the title to lands in the State, including lands that are not currently the subject of the action.

(7) The State of Connecticut and the Mohegan Tribe have executed agreements for the purposes of resolving all disputes between the State of Connecticut and the Mohegan Tribe and providing a settlement for the action referred to in paragraph (5).

(8) In order to implement the agreements referred to in paragraphs (5) and (6) of section 1775a of this title that address matters of jurisdiction with respect to certain offenses committed by and against members of the Mohegan Tribe and other Indians in Indian country and matters of gaming-related development, it is necessary for the Congress to enact legislation.

(9) The town of Montville, Connecticut, will—

(A) be affected by the loss of a tax base from, and jurisdiction over, lands that will

¹ So in original. Probably should be "section".