

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
551 .....	40:484(l).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(l), as added Aug. 1, 1955, ch. 442, 69 Stat. 430.

**§ 552. Abandoned or unclaimed property on Government premises**

(a) **AUTHORITY TO TAKE PROPERTY.**—The Administrator of General Services may take possession of abandoned or unclaimed property on premises owned or leased by the Federal Government and determine when title to the property vests in the Government. The Administrator may use, transfer, or otherwise dispose of the property.

(b) **CLAIM FILED BY FORMER OWNER.**—If a former owner files a proper claim within three years from the date that title to the property vests in the Government, the former owner shall be paid an amount—

(1) equal to the proceeds realized from the disposition of the property less costs incident to care and handling as determined by the Administrator; or

(2) if the property has been used or transferred, equal to the fair value of the property as of the time title vested in the Government less costs incident to care and handling as determined by the Administrator.

(Pub. L. 107–217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1099; Pub. L. 109–284, §6(3), Sept. 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 1212.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
552 .....	40:484(m).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(m), formerly §203(l), 63 Stat. 388; redesignated §203(m), Aug. 1, 1955, ch. 442, 69 Stat. 430.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109–284 substituted “(a) AUTHORITY TO TAKE PROPERTY.—The Administrator” for “(a) AUTHORITY TO TAKE PROPERTY Administrator”.

**§ 553. Property for correctional facility, law enforcement, and emergency management response purposes**

(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term “State” includes the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Palau, and, the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) **AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER PROPERTY.**—The Administrator of General Services, in the Administrator’s discretion and under regulations that the Administrator may prescribe, may transfer or convey to a State, or political subdivision or instrumentality of a State, surplus real and related personal property that—

(1) the Attorney General determines is required by the transferee or grantee for correctional facility use under a program approved by the Attorney General for the care or rehabilitation of criminal offenders;

(2) the Attorney General determines is required by the transferee or grantee for law enforcement purposes; or

(3) the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency determines is required by the transferee or grantee for emergency management response purposes including fire and rescue services.

(c) **NO MONETARY CONSIDERATION.**—A transfer or conveyance under this section shall be made without monetary consideration to the Federal Government.

(d) **DEED OF CONVEYANCE.**—The deed of conveyance of any surplus real and related personal property disposed of under this section—

(1) shall provide that all of the property be used and maintained for the purpose for which it was conveyed in perpetuity, and that if the property ceases to be used or maintained for that purpose, all or any portion of the property shall, in its then existing condition, at the option of the Government, revert to the Government; and

(2) may contain additional terms, reservations, restrictions, and conditions that the Administrator determines are necessary to safeguard the interests of the Government.

(e) **ENFORCEMENT AND REVISION OF INSTRUMENTS TRANSFERRING PROPERTY UNDER THIS SECTION.**—The Administrator shall determine and enforce compliance with the terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions contained in an instrument by which a transfer or conveyance under this section is made. The Administrator shall reform, correct, or amend the instrument if necessary to correct the instrument or to conform the transfer to the requirements of law. The Administrator shall grant a release from any term, condition, reservation or restriction contained in the instrument, and shall convey, quitclaim, or release to the transferee (or other eligible user) any right or interest reserved to the Government by the instrument, if the Administrator determines that the property no longer serves the purpose for which it was transferred or that a release, conveyance, or quitclaim deed will not prevent accomplishment of that purpose. The release, conveyance, or quitclaim deed may be made subject to terms and conditions that the Administrator considers necessary to protect or advance the interests of the Government.

(Pub. L. 107–217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1099; Pub. L. 109–295, title VI, §612(c), Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1410.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
553 .....	40:484(p).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(p), as added Pub. L. 98–473, title II, §701, Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2129; Pub. L. 105–119, title I, §118, Nov. 26, 1997, 111 Stat. 2468; Pub. L. 106–113, §1000(a)(5) [§233(a)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1501A–301; Pub. L. 106–168, title III, §301, Dec. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1821; Pub. L. 106–398, §1 [§2814], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654A–419.

In subsection (a), the words “Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands” are omitted and the words “the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands,

Palau” are added because of the termination of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. See 48:1681 note prec.

In subsection (c), the text of 40:484(p)(1)(A) (last sentence) is omitted as executed and obsolete.

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The “Administrator”, referred to in subsecs. (d)(2) and (e), is the Administrator of General Services.

#### CHANGE OF NAME

“Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency” substituted for “Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency” in subsec. (b)(3) on authority of section 612(c) of Pub. L. 109-295, set out as a note under section 313 of Title 6, Domestic Security. Any reference to the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in title VI of Pub. L. 109-295 or an amendment by title VI to be considered to refer and apply to the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency until Mar. 31, 2007, see section 612(f)(2) of Pub. L. 109-295, set out as a note under section 313 of Title 6.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of all functions, personnel, assets, components, authorities, grant programs, and liabilities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including the functions of the Under Secretary for Federal Emergency Management relating thereto, to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, see section 315(a)(1) of Title 6, Domestic Security.

For transfer of functions, personnel, assets, and liabilities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including the functions of the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency relating thereto, to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see former section 313(1) and sections 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

### § 554. Property for development or operation of a port facility

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) BASE CLOSURE LAW.—The term “base closure law” has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(17) of title 10.

(2) STATE.—The term “State” includes the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Palau, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) AUTHORITY FOR ASSIGNMENT TO THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Under regulations that the Administrator of General Services, after consultation with the Secretary of Defense, may prescribe, the Administrator, or the Secretary of Defense in the case of property located at a military installation closed or realigned pursuant to a base closure law, may assign to the Secretary of Transportation for disposal surplus real property, including buildings, fixtures, and equipment situated on the property, that the Secretary of Transportation recommends as needed for the development or operation of a port facility.

(c) AUTHORITY FOR CONVEYANCE BY THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to disapproval by the Administrator or the Secretary of Defense

within 30 days after notice of a proposed conveyance by the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Transportation, for the development or operation of a port facility, may convey property assigned to the Secretary of Transportation under subsection (b) to a State or political subdivision, municipality, or instrumentality of a State.

(2) CONVEYANCE REQUIREMENTS.—A transfer of property may be made under this section only after the Secretary of Transportation has—

(A) determined, after consultation with the Secretary of Labor, that the property to be conveyed is located in an area of serious economic disruption;

(B) received and, after consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, approved an economic development plan submitted by an eligible grantee and based on assured use of the property to be conveyed as part of a necessary economic development program; and

(C) transmitted to Congress an explanatory statement that contains information substantially similar to the information contained in statements prepared under section 545(e) of this title.

(d) NO MONETARY CONSIDERATION.—A conveyance under this section shall be made without monetary consideration to the Federal Government.

(e) DEED OF CONVEYANCE.—The deed of conveyance of any surplus real and related personal property disposed of under this section shall—

(1) provide that all of the property be used and maintained for the purpose for which it was conveyed in perpetuity, and that if the property ceases to be used or maintained for that purpose, all or any portion of the property shall, in its then existing condition, at the option of the Government, revert to the Government; and

(2) contain additional terms, reservations, restrictions, and conditions that the Secretary of Transportation shall by regulation require to ensure use of the property for the purposes for which it was conveyed and to safeguard the interests of the Government.

(f) ENFORCEMENT AND REVISION OF INSTRUMENTS TRANSFERRING PROPERTY UNDER THIS SECTION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall determine and enforce compliance with the terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions contained in an instrument by which a transfer or conveyance under this section is made. The Secretary shall reform, correct, or amend the instrument if necessary to correct the instrument or to conform the transfer to the requirements of law. The Secretary shall grant a release from any term, condition, reservation or restriction contained in the instrument, and shall convey, quitclaim, or release to the grantee any right or interest reserved to the Government by the instrument, if the Secretary determines that the property no longer serves the purpose for which it was transferred or that a release, conveyance, or quitclaim deed will not prevent accomplishment of that purpose. The release, conveyance, or quitclaim deed may be made subject to terms and conditions that the