

SUBCHAPTER XXVIII—UTE INDIANS OF UTAH: DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS BETWEEN MIXED-BLOOD AND FULL-BLOOD MEMBERS; TERMINATION OF FEDERAL SUPERVISION OVER PROPERTY OF MIXED-BLOOD MEMBERS

§ 677. Purpose

The purpose of this subchapter is to provide for the partition and distribution of the assets of the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in Utah between the mixed-blood and full-blood members thereof; for the termination of Federal supervision over the trust, and restricted property, of the mixed-blood members of said tribe; and for a development program for the full-blood members thereof, to assist them in preparing for termination of Federal supervision over their property.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 1, 68 Stat. 868.)

REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT LAWS

Act Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 29, 68 Stat. 878, provided that: "All Acts or parts of Acts, inconsistent with this Act [this subchapter] are hereby repealed insofar as they affect the tribe or its members."

SEPARABILITY

Act Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 30, 68 Stat. 878, provided that: "If any provision of this Act [this subchapter], or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby."

§ 677a. Definitions

For the purposes of this subchapter—

(a) "Tribe" means the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, Utah.

(b) "Full-blood" means a member of the tribe who possesses one-half degree of Ute Indian blood and a total of Indian blood in excess of one-half, excepting those who become mixed-bloods by choice under the provisions of section 677c of this title.

(c) "Mixed-blood" means a member of the tribe who does not possess sufficient Indian or Ute Indian blood to fall within the full-blood class as herein defined, and those who become mixed-bloods by choice under the provisions of section 677c of this title.

(d) "Secretary" means Secretary of the Interior.

(e) "Superintendent" means the Superintendent of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, Utah.

(f) "Asset" means any property of the tribe, real, personal or mixed, whether held by the tribe or by the United States in trust for the tribe, or subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States.

(g) "Adult" means a member of the tribe who has attained the age of twenty-one years.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 2, 68 Stat. 868.)

§ 677b. Method of determining Ute Indian blood

For the purposes of this subchapter Ute Indian blood shall be determined in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the tribe and all tribal ordinances in force and effect on August 27, 1954.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 3, 68 Stat. 868.)

§ 677c. Transfer of members from full-blood roll to mixed-blood group; time; certification by Secretary

Any member of the tribe whose name appears on the proposed roll of full-blood members as provided in section 677g of this title and any person whose name is added to such proposed roll as the result of an appeal to the Secretary may apply to the Superintendent to become identified with and a part of the mixed-blood group: *Provided*, That such application is made within thirty days subsequent to the publication of such proposed roll or in the event of an appeal within thirty days subsequent to notification of the decision on said appeal: *And provided further*, That before such transfer is made upon the official rolls the Secretary shall first certify that, in his opinion, such change in status is not detrimental to the best interest of the person seeking such change.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 4, 68 Stat. 868.)

§ 677d. Restriction of tribe to full-blood members after publication of final rolls; non-interest of mixed-blood members; new membership

Effective on the date of publication of the final rolls as provided in section 677g of this title the tribe shall thereafter consist exclusively of full-blood members. Mixed-blood members shall have no interest therein except as otherwise provided in this subchapter. New membership in the tribe shall thereafter be controlled and determined by the constitution and bylaws of the tribe and ordinances enacted thereunder.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 5, 68 Stat. 868; Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 880, § 1, 70 Stat. 936.)

AMENDMENTS

1956—Act Aug. 2, 1956, provided for control and determination of new membership in the tribe in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the tribe and ordinances enacted thereunder.

§ 677e. Organization of mixed-blood members; constitution and bylaws; representatives; actions in absence of organization

The mixed-blood members of the tribe, including those residing on and off the reservation, shall have the right to organize for their common welfare, and may adopt an appropriate constitution and bylaws which shall become effective when ratified by a majority vote of the adult mixed-blood members of the tribe at a special election authorized and called by the Secretary under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe. Such constitution may provide for the selection of authorized representatives who shall have power to take any action that is required by this subchapter to be taken by the mixed-blood members as a group: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as requiring said mixed-blood Indians to so organize if such organization is by them deemed unnecessary. In the event no such approved organization is effected, any action taken by the adult mixed-blood members, by majority vote, whether in public meeting or by referendum, but in ei-