

the credit of the tribe or either group thereof, shall be available for advance to the tribe or the respective groups, or for expenditure, for such purposes, including per capita payments, as may be designated by the Tribal Business Committee for the full-blood members, and by the authorized agents of the mixed-blood members, and in either event subject to the approval of the Secretary: *Provided*, That the aggregate amount of the expenditures and advances authorized by this section for the mixed-blood group shall not exceed 50 per centum of the total funds of said mixed-blood group after such division, until said mixed-blood group has adopted a plan approved by the Secretary for termination of Federal supervision of said mixed-blood group, as required under section 677l of this title. After such termination of Federal supervision, per capita payments to the mixed-blood group shall not be subject to approval of the Secretary.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 11, 68 Stat. 873.)

§ 677k. Adjustment of debts in making per capita payments to mixed-blood members; execution of mortgages on property

Fifty per centum of all per capita payments to any individual mixed-blood member made pursuant to any division or distribution hereunder shall have deducted therefrom any sum or sums of money owed by such member to the tribe, whether due or to become due, unless in the opinion of the Secretary said debts are not adequately secured in which event the entire per capita payment shall be subject to such offset. Any other division, partition or distribution of property to any individual mixed-blood member made pursuant to this subchapter shall be subject to a mortgage to be made in favor of the tribe securing the payment of all sums of money owed by him to the tribe on the date of such division, partition or distribution to such individual mixed-blood member. The Secretary shall require the execution of any mortgage required under this section as a condition to any such division, partition or distribution.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 12, 68 Stat. 874.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Hereunder, referred to in text, means act Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, 68 Stat. 868, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

§ 677l. Distribution to individual members of mixed-blood group; preparation and approval of plan; assistance; provisions permitted in plan

After the adoption of a plan for the division of the assets between the two groups, a plan for distribution of the assets of the mixed-blood group to the individual members thereof shall be prepared and ratified by a majority of said group, within the period of six months from such adoption and presented to the Secretary for approval. The Secretary is authorized to provide such reasonable assistance, including necessary technical service of Government employees at Fort Duchesne, Utah, and arranging for necessary consultations with representatives of Federal departments and agencies, officials of

the State of Utah and political subdivisions thereof, as may be required by the mixed-blood group in the preparation of such plan.

The plan for division of the assets among the members of the mixed-blood group may include:

(1) Complete disposition of all cash assets of said group, reserving, however, sufficient funds to cover—

(i) the proportionate share of said mixed-blood group in and to all expenses incurred in effecting the purposes of this subchapter, including, but not limited to, the necessary expense incurred under this section and section 677m of this title;

(ii) the just and proportionate share of the mixed-bloods in the expense incurred in the prosecution of the claims of the tribe, or the bands thereof, against the United States; and

(iii) the determinable and estimated administrative costs and expenses of any mixed-blood organization authorized by this subchapter, including lawful and reasonable salaries and fees of authorized agents, officers and employees of said mixed-blood group.

(2) Partition of the lands of the mixed-blood group, excepting all gas, oil, and mineral rights, to corporations, partnerships, or other legal entities, and to trustees, and the individual members of said groups, quality and quantity relatively considered, according to the respective rights and interests of the parties, located so as to embrace, as far as practicable, any improvements lawfully made by the person or persons receiving such land. The value of the improvements made, under a valid lease or assignment from the tribe, shall be excluded from the valuation in making allotments to the lessee or assignee, and the land must be valued without regard to such improvements unless the lease or assignment, under which said improvements were made, provided that such improvements should become the property of the tribe. In the making of any partition due consideration shall be given to all of the rights and interests of the person or persons receiving the property, and all of the rights and interests of the other members of the tribe. Two or more of the members of said mixed-blood group may obtain their share of property as tenants in common, as joint tenants, or in any other lawful manner when such members agree among themselves as to the manner in which they desire to receive such title. When it appears that an equitable partition cannot be made among the members of said mixed-blood group without prejudice to the rights and interests of some of them, and yet a partition is directed by the group, the members of said group may voluntarily determine compensation to be made by one party to another on account of the inequity. In all cases where equity is agreed upon by the members of said mixed-blood group, such compensatory adjustment among the parties, according to the principles of equity, must be approved by the Secretary. In the event of a failure to agree upon an equitable compensatory adjustment among the parties the Secretary shall make such adjustment and his decision shall be final.

(3) Organization of corporations for the grazing of livestock, handling of water and water rights, and the shares therein may be issued to the members of said group in proportion to their interests in the assets of such corporations. When, in the opinion of said mixed-blood group, it is to the best interest of said group to transfer a portion of the assets of said group to a corporation or other legal entity for any purpose, the Secretary is authorized to make such transfer.

(4) A transfer of assets to one or more trustees designated by said group who shall hold title to all or any part of the property of said group for management or liquidation purposes under terms and conditions prescribed by said mixed-blood group. The Secretary is authorized to make such transfer, and approve the trustees, and the terms and conditions of the trust.

(5) Sale of any portion of the assets of said group subject to the approval of the Secretary. In addition to the sales herein otherwise authorized, authority is granted to the authorized representatives of said group to sell any property of said group when, in the opinion of the majority of said mixed-blood group, a practicable partition cannot be made, or for any other reason it is deemed to the best interests of the group, and the proceeds of such sales shall be distributed equitably among the members of said mixed-blood group; after deducting reasonable cost of sale and distribution.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 13, 68 Stat. 874.)

§ 677m. Procedure by Secretary if distribution not completed within seven years from August 27, 1954

In the event all the tribal assets, susceptible to equitable and practicable distribution, distributed to the mixed-blood group under the provisions of section 677i of this title, are not, within seven years from August 27, 1954, distributed to the individual mixed-blood members as contemplated in the plan to be adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 677l of this title, so as to effectively terminate Federal supervision over said assets, then the Secretary shall proceed to make such distribution in a manner, in his discretion, deemed fair and equitable to all members of said group, or convey such assets to a trustee for liquidation and distribution of the net proceeds, or convey such assets to the persons entitled thereto as tenants in common.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 14, 68 Stat. 875.)

§ 677n. Disposal by mixed-blood members of their individual interests in tribal assets; requisites and conditions

Any member of the mixed-blood group may dispose of his interest in the tribal assets prior to termination of Federal supervision, subject to the approval of the Secretary. In the event a member of the mixed-blood group determines to dispose of his interest in any of said real property at any time within ten years from August 27, 1954, he shall first offer it to the members of

the tribe, and no sale of any interest, prior to termination of Federal supervision, shall be authorized without such offer to said members of the tribe in such form as may be approved by the Secretary. After termination of Federal supervision the requirement of such offer, in form to be approved by the Secretary, shall be a covenant to run with the land for said ten-year period, and shall be expressly provided in any patent or deed issued prior to the expiration of said period.

(Aug. 27, 1954, ch. 1009, § 15, 68 Stat. 876.)

§ 677o. Termination of restrictions on individually owned property of the mixed-blood group

(a) Transfer of control of trust property; removal of sales restrictions

When any mixed-blood member of the tribe has received his distributive share of the tribal assets distributed to the mixed-blood group under the provisions of section 677i of this title, whether such distribution is made in part or in whole to a corporation, partnership, or trusteeship in which he is interested, or otherwise, the Secretary is authorized and directed to immediately transfer to him unrestricted control of all other property held in trust for such mixed-blood member by the United States, and shall further remove all restrictions on the sale or encumbrance of trust or restricted property owned by such member of the tribe, and Federal supervision of such member and his property shall thereby be terminated, except as to his remaining interest in tribal property in the form of any unadjudicated or unliquidated claims against the United States, all gas, oil, and mineral rights of every kind, and all other tribal assets not susceptible to equitable and practicable distribution, all of which shall remain subject to the terms of this subchapter, notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary.

(b) Partition or sale by Secretary prior to removal of restrictions

Prior to the removal of restrictions in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section on land owned by more than one person, the Secretary may—

(1) upon request of any of the owners, partition the land and issue to each owner an unrestricted patent or deed for his individual share, unless such owner is a full-blood member of the tribe or other Indian who owns trust or restricted property, in which event a trust patent or restricted deed shall be issued and such trust may be terminated or such restrictions may be removed when the Secretary determines that the need therefor no longer exists;

(2) upon request of any of the owners and a finding by the Secretary that partition of all or any part of the land is not practicable, cause all or any part of the land to be sold at not less than the appraised value thereof and distribute the proceeds of sale to the owners: *Provided*, That before a sale any one or more of the owners may elect to purchase the other interests in the land, or the tribe may elect to purchase the entire interest in the land, at not less than the appraised value thereof.