

Florida a lawsuit by the Miccosukee Indian Tribe which involves certain lands within the State of Florida;

(2) the pendency of such lawsuit may result in economic hardships for residents of the State of Florida by clouding the titles to lands in the State, including lands not now involved in the lawsuits;

(3) the pendency of such lawsuit also has clouded the easement rights of the South Florida Water Management District in lands necessary for use as a water flowage and storage area, which is part of a federally authorized project for flood control and water management in central and southern Florida, and which is being used to provide and regulate a water supply for the residents of South Florida;

(4) the State of Florida and the Miccosukee Indian Tribe have executed agreements for the purposes of resolving tribal land claims and settling such lawsuit, which agreements require implementing legislation by the Congress of the United States and the Legislature of the State of Florida; and

(5) Congress shares with the parties to such agreements a desire to settle such Indian claims in the State of Florida without additional cost to the United States.

(Pub. L. 97-399, §2, Dec. 31, 1982, 96 Stat. 2012.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 97-399, §1, Dec. 31, 1982, 96 Stat. 2012, provided: "That this Act [enacting this part] may be cited as the 'Florida Indian Land Claims Settlement Act of 1982.'"

§ 1742. Definitions

For purposes of this part—

(1) The term "Miccosukee Tribe" means the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, a tribe of American Indians recognized by the United States and organized under section 476 of this title and recognized by the State of Florida pursuant to chapter 285, Florida Statutes.

(2) The term "State of Florida" means the State of Florida, its agencies, political subdivisions, constitutional officers, officials of its agencies and subdivisions, and the South Florida Water Management District.

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

(4) The term "lands or natural resources" means any real property or natural resources, or any interest in or right involving any real property or natural resources including but not limited to minerals and mineral rights, timber and timber rights, water and water rights, and rights to hunt and fish.

(5) The term "lawsuit" means the action in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, entitled Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida against State of Florida, et al., Case No. 79-253-CIV-JWK.

(6) The term "Lease Agreement" means that perpetual lease granted by the State of Florida to the Miccosukee Tribe, involving a specifically described area in South Florida, title to which is held by the State of Florida and in which the Miccosukee Tribe is granted certain express rights and interests.

(7) The term "settlement funds" means those amounts of money which the State of Florida has agreed to pay to the Miccosukee Tribe under the Settlement Agreement in partial consideration for the settlement of the lawsuit and the extinguishment of rights to all potential or unsettled claims which the Miccosukee Tribe may have to lands or natural resources in the State of Florida.

(8) The term "Settlement Agreement" means those documents entitled "Settlement Agreement between the Miccosukee Tribe and the State of Florida" executed on April 16, 1982, by representatives of the State of Florida and representatives of the Miccosukee Tribe and filed with the secretary of state of the State of Florida which incorporate the Lease Agreement described in paragraph (6) of this section.

(9) The term "transfer" includes but is not limited to any sale, grant, lease, allotment, partition, or conveyance, any transaction the purpose of which was to effect a sale, grant, lease, allotment, partition, or conveyance, or any event or events that resulted in a change of possession or control of lands or natural resources.

(Pub. L. 97-399, §3, Dec. 31, 1982, 96 Stat. 2012.)

§ 1743. Findings by the Secretary

Section 1744 of this title shall not take effect until the Secretary finds that the following events have occurred:

(1) the State of Florida has enacted legislation appropriating sufficient money to pay, and in fact has paid, the settlement funds to the Miccosukee Tribe;

(2) the State of Florida and the Miccosukee Tribe have executed the Lease Agreement; and

(3) the State of Florida has enacted appropriate legislation to carry out its commitments under paragraph 1b of the Settlement Agreement between the State of Florida and the Miccosukee Tribe and has given the waiver specified in paragraph 4d of such Agreement.

(Pub. L. 97-399, §4, Dec. 31, 1982, 96 Stat. 2013.)

§ 1744. Approval of prior transfers and extinguishment of claims and aboriginal title involving Florida Indians

(a) Publication of findings; consequences

If the Secretary finds that the State of Florida has satisfied the conditions set forth in section 1743 of this title, he shall publish such findings and the Settlement Agreement in the Federal Register, and upon such publication—

(1) the transfers, waivers, releases, relinquishments, and other commitments made by the Miccosukee Tribe in paragraph 3 of the Settlement Agreement between the State of Florida and the Miccosukee Tribe shall be of full force and effect on the terms and conditions therein stated; and

(2) the transfers, waivers, releases, relinquishments, and other commitments validated by paragraph (1) of this subsection and the transfers and extinguishments approved and validated by paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of this section shall be deemed to