

land owned by more than one member of a tribe, the Secretary may—

(1) upon request of any of the owners, partition the land and issue to each owner a patent or deed for his individual share that shall become unrestricted two years from August 13, 1954;

(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 any one or more of the owners may elect before a sale to purchase the other interests in the land at not less than the appraised value thereof, and the purchaser shall receive an unrestricted patent or deed to the land; and

(3) if the whereabouts of none of the owners can be ascertained, cause such lands to be sold and deposit the proceeds of sale in the Treasury of the United States for safekeeping.

(Aug. 13, 1954, ch. 733, § 6, 68 Stat. 725.)

§ 697. Property of deceased members

(a) Federal laws not applicable to probate

The Act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 855), the Act of February 14, 1913 (37 Stat. 678), and other Acts amendatory thereto shall not apply to the probate of the trust and restricted property of the members of the tribes who die six months or more after August 13, 1954.

(b) State, etc., laws applicable to probate

The laws of the several States, Territories, possessions, and the District of Columbia with respect to the probate of wills, the determination of heirs, and the administration of decedents' estates shall apply to the individual property of members of the tribes who die six months or more after August 13, 1954.

(Aug. 13, 1954, ch. 733, § 7, 68 Stat. 726.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of June 25, 1910, referred to in subsec. (a), is act June 25, 1910, ch. 431, 36 Stat. 855, which enacted sections 47, 93, 151, 202, 337, 344a, 351, 352, 353, 372, 403, 406, 407, and 408 of this title, section 6a-1 of former Title 41, Public Contracts, and section 148 of Title 43, Public Lands, and amended sections 191, 312, 331, 333, and 336 of this title and sections 104 and 107 of former Title 18, Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure. Sections 104 and 107 of former Title 18 were repealed and restated as sections 1853 and 1856 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, by act June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 683. Section 6a-1 of former Title 41 was repealed and restated as section 6102(e) of Title 41, Public Contracts, by Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, 7(b), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3677, 3855. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

Act of February 14, 1913, referred to in subsec. (a), is act Feb. 14, 1913, ch. 55, 37 Stat. 678, which amended section 373 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

§ 698. Transfer of federally owned property

The Secretary is authorized, in his discretion, to transfer to any tribe or any member or group of members thereof any federally owned property acquired, withdrawn, or used for the administration of the affairs of the tribes subject to

this subchapter which he deems necessary for Indian use, or to transfer to a public or non-profit body any such property which he deems necessary for public use and from which members of the tribes will derive benefits.

(Aug. 13, 1954, ch. 733, § 8, 68 Stat. 726.)

§ 699. Taxes; initial exemption; taxes following distribution; valuation for capital gains or losses

No property distributed under the provisions of this subchapter shall at the time of distribution be subject to Federal or State income tax. Following any distribution of property made under the provisions of this subchapter, such property and any income derived therefrom by the individual, corporation, or other legal entity shall be subject to the same taxes, State and Federal, as in the case of non-Indians: *Provided*, That for the purpose of capital gains or losses the base value of the property shall be the value of the property when distributed to the individual, corporation, or other legal entity.

(Aug. 13, 1954, ch. 733, § 9, 68 Stat. 726.)

§ 700. Protection of minors, persons non compos mentis and other members needing assistance; guardians; other adequate means

Prior to the transfer of title to, or the removal of restrictions from, property in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter, the Secretary shall protect the rights of members of the tribes who are minors, non compos mentis, or in the opinion of the Secretary in need of assistance in conducting their affairs by causing the appointment of guardians for such members in courts of competent jurisdiction, or by such other means as he may deem adequate.

(Aug. 13, 1954, ch. 733, § 10, 68 Stat. 726.)

§ 701. Advances or expenditures from tribal funds

Pending the completion of the property dispositions provided for in this subchapter, the funds now on deposit, or hereafter deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of a tribe shall be available for advance to the tribe, or for expenditure, for such purposes as may be designated by the governing body of the tribe and approved by the Secretary.

(Aug. 13, 1954, ch. 733, § 11, 68 Stat. 726.)

§ 702. Execution by Secretary of patents, deeds, etc.

The Secretary shall have authority to execute such patents, deeds, assignments, releases, certificates, contracts, and other instruments as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this subchapter, or to establish a marketable and recordable title to any property disposed of pursuant to this subchapter.

(Aug. 13, 1954, ch. 733, § 12, 68 Stat. 727.)

§ 703. Termination of Federal trust

(a) Publication; termination of Federal services; application of Federal and State laws

Upon removal of Federal restrictions on the property of each tribe and individual members