

ida, 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.

**(6) Secretary**

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

**(7) Settlement Agreement; Agreement**

The terms “Settlement Agreement” and “Agreement” mean the assemblage of documents entitled “Settlement Agreement” (with incorporated exhibits) that—

(A) addresses the lawsuit; and

(B)(i) was signed on August 28, 1996, by Ben G. Watts (Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation) and Billy Cypress (Chairman of the Miccosukee Tribe); and

(ii) after being signed, as described in clause (i), was concurred in by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvements Trust Fund of the State of Florida.

**(8) State of Florida**

The term “State of Florida” means—

(A) all agencies or departments of the State of Florida, including the Florida Department of Transportation and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvements Trust Fund; and

(B) the State of Florida as a governmental entity.

(Pub. L. 105–83, title VII, §703, Nov. 14, 1997, 111 Stat. 1624.)

**§ 1750b. Ratification**

The United States approves, ratifies, and confirms the Settlement Agreement.

(Pub. L. 105–83, title VII, §704, Nov. 14, 1997, 111 Stat. 1625.)

**§ 1750c. Authority of Secretary**

As Trustee for the Miccosukee Tribe, the Secretary shall—

(1)(A) aid and assist in the fulfillment of the Settlement Agreement at all times and in a reasonable manner; and

(B) to accomplish the fulfillment of the Settlement Agreement in accordance with subparagraph (A), cooperate with and assist the Miccosukee Tribe;

(2) upon finding that the Settlement Agreement is legally sufficient and that the State of Florida has the necessary authority to fulfill the Agreement—

(A) sign the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the United States; and

(B) ensure that an individual other than the Secretary who is a representative of the Bureau of Indian Affairs also signs the Settlement Agreement;

(3) upon finding that all necessary conditions precedent to the transfer of Miccosukee land to the Florida Department of Transportation as provided in the Settlement Agreement have been or will be met so that the Agreement has been or will be fulfilled, but for the execution of that land transfer and related land transfers—

(A) transfer ownership of the Miccosukee land to the Florida Department of Transportation in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, including in the transfer solely and exclusively that Miccosukee land identified in the Settlement Agreement for transfer to the Florida Department of Transportation; and

(B) in conjunction with the land transfer referred to in subparagraph (A), transfer no land other than the land referred to in that subparagraph to the Florida Department of Transportation; and

(4) upon finding that all necessary conditions precedent to the transfer of Florida lands from the State of Florida to the United States have been or will be met so that the Agreement has been or will be fulfilled but for the execution of that land transfer and related land transfers, receive and accept in trust for the use and benefit of the Miccosukee Tribe ownership of all land identified in the Settlement Agreement for transfer to the United States.

(Pub. L. 105–83, title VII, §705, Nov. 14, 1997, 111 Stat. 1625.)

**§ 1750d. Miccosukee Indian Reservation lands**

The lands transferred and held in trust for the Miccosukee Tribe under section 1750c(4) of this title shall be Miccosukee Indian Reservation lands.

(Pub. L. 105–83, title VII, §706, Nov. 14, 1997, 111 Stat. 1626.)

**§ 1750e. Miscellaneous**

**(a) Rule of construction**

Nothing in this part or the Settlement Agreement shall—

(1) affect the eligibility of the Miccosukee Tribe or its members to receive any services or benefits under any program of the Federal Government; or

(2) diminish the trust responsibility of the United States to the Miccosukee Tribe and its members.

**(b) No reductions in payments**

No payment made pursuant to this part or the Settlement Agreement shall result in any reduction or denial of any benefits or services under any program of the Federal Government to the Miccosukee Tribe or its members, with respect to which the Tribe or the members of the Tribe are entitled or eligible because of the status of—

(1) the Miccosukee Tribe as a federally recognized Indian tribe; or

(2) any member of the Miccosukee Tribe as a member of the Tribe.

**(c) Taxation**

**(1) In general**

**(A) Moneys**

None of the moneys paid to the Miccosukee Tribe under this part or the Settlement Agreement shall be taxable under Federal or State law.

**(B) Lands**

None of the lands conveyed to the Miccosukee Tribe under this part or the Set-