

(Pub. L. 101-301, § 10, May 24, 1990, 104 Stat. 211.)

**§ 15. Utility facilities used in administration of Bureau; contracts for sale, operation, maintenance, repair or relocation of facilities; terms and conditions; exception; Congressional approval**

Except for electric utility systems constructed and operated as a part of an irrigation system, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to contract under such terms and conditions as he considers to be in the best interest of the Federal Government for the sale, operation, maintenance, repairs, or relocation of Government-owned utilities and utility systems and appurtenances used in the administration of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Secretary shall not execute a contract pursuant to this section until he has submitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a copy of the contract and a statement of his reasons for proposing the contract, and until such materials have lain before the Committees for sixty days (excluding the time during which either House is in recess for more than three days) unless prior thereto the Secretary is notified that neither committee has any objection to the proposed contract.

(Pub. L. 87-279, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 577; Pub. L. 103-437, § 10(a), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4588.)

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-437 substituted “Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives” for “Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives”.

**§ 16. Transportation of Indians in Bureau vehicles**

On and after October 12, 1984, passenger carrying motor vehicles of the Bureau of Indian Affairs may be used for the transportation of Indians.

(Pub. L. 98-473, title I, § 101(c) [title I, § 100], Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 1837, 1850.)

**§ 17. Use of Bureau facilities**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary of the Interior may permit tribal governments and organizations and student organizations to use Bureau of Indian Affairs equipment, land, buildings, and other structures if such use does not interfere with the purpose for which they are administered by the Bureau and when such use benefits Indians or Federal or federally funded programs. The Secretary may charge the user for the cost of the utilities and other expenses incurred for the use. The amounts collected shall be credited to the appropriation or fund from which the expenses are paid and shall be available until the end of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which collected. The Secretary's decision to not permit a use under this section is final and shall not be subject to judicial review.

**(b) Scope of authority**

The authority provided by this section is in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other

authority available to the Secretary of the Interior.

**(c) Limitation of liability**

The payment of any fee, or agreement to pay costs, to the Secretary shall not in any way or to any extent limit the right of the United States to rely upon sovereign immunity or any State or Federal statute limiting liability or damages from injuries sustained in connection with use under this section.

(Pub. L. 100-297, title V, § 5405, Apr. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 417; Pub. L. 100-427, § 25, Sept. 9, 1988, 102 Stat. 1613.)

AMENDMENTS

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-427, § 25(a), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows: “The Secretary of the Interior may permit tribal, student, and other non-Federal organizations to use facilities, lands, and equipment administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs if such use does not interfere with the purpose for which the facilities, land, and equipment are administered by the Bureau. The Secretary of the Interior may charge the user for the actual or estimated additional cost of utilities or other expenses incurred because of the use and the amounts collected shall be credited to the appropriation or fund from which the expenses are paid.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-427, § 25(b), added subsec. (c).

EFFECTIVE DATE

For effective date and applicability of section, see section 6303 of Pub. L. 100-297, set out as an Effective Date of 1988 Amendment note under section 1071 of Title 20, Education.

**CHAPTER 2—OFFICERS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**

Sec.	
21 to 24.	Repealed or Omitted.
25.	Superintendent for Five Civilized Tribes.
25a.	Application of civil service laws.
26 to 32.	Repealed or Omitted.
33.	Superintendents in charge of reservations; administration of oath of office.
34, 35.	Repealed.
36.	Special agents and other officers to administer oaths.
37 to 39.	Repealed.
40.	Limits of superintendencies, agencies, and subagencies.
41.	Special agents and commissioners.
41a.	Indian inspectors.
42.	Repealed.
43.	Persons paid for other services not paid for interpreting.
44.	Employment of Indians.
45.	Preference to Indians qualified for duties.
46.	Preference to Indians in employment of clerical, mechanical, and other help.
47.	Employment of Indian labor and purchase of products of Indian industry; participation in Mentor-Protege Program.
47a.	Security required by Secretary; contracts with Indian-owned economic enterprise; public work.
48.	Right of tribes to direct employment of persons engaged for them.
49 to 52a.	Repealed.
53.	Disbursing officers; acting clerks.
54, 55.	Repealed.
56.	Quarters, fuel, and light for employees.
57.	Omitted.
58.	Limitation on number and kind of employment.
59.	Transfer of funds for payment of employees; details for other service.