

§ 1661. Islands of eastern Samoa

(a) Ceded to and accepted by United States

The cessions by certain chiefs of the islands of Tutuila and Manua and certain other islands of the Samoan group lying between the thirteenth and fifteenth degrees of latitude south of the Equator and between the one hundred and sixty-seventh and one hundred and seventy-first degrees of longitude west of Greenwich, herein referred to as the islands of eastern Samoa, are accepted, ratified, and confirmed, as of April 10, 1900, and July 16, 1904, respectively.

(b) Public land laws; revenue

The existing laws of the United States relative to public lands shall not apply to such lands in the said islands of eastern Samoa; but the Congress of the United States shall enact special laws for their management and disposition: *Provided*, That all revenue from or proceeds of the same, except as regards such part thereof as may be used or occupied for the civil, military, or naval purposes of the United States or may be assigned for the use of the local government, shall be used solely for the benefit of the inhabitants of the said islands of eastern Samoa for educational and other public purposes.

(c) Government

Until Congress shall provide for the government of such islands, all civil, judicial, and military powers shall be vested in such person or persons and shall be exercised in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct; and the President shall have power to remove said officers and fill the vacancies so occasioned.

(Feb. 20, 1929, ch. 281, 45 Stat. 1253; May 22, 1929, ch. 6, 46 Stat. 4.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The existing laws of the United States relative to public lands, referred to in subsec. (b), are classified generally to Title 43, Public Lands.

CODIFICATION

Subsec. (d) of this section, which provided for recommendation of legislation concerning the islands of eastern Samoa by seven commissioners as soon as reasonably practicable, was omitted from the Code.

Section was formerly classified to section 1431a of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1929—Subsec. (d). Act May 22, 1929, substituted “seven” and “three” for “six” and “two”, respectively, and inserted “or high chiefs” after “chiefs”.

AUTHORITY OF GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, AND THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS TO ENACT REVENUE LAWS

See section 1271 of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 931 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

SUBMERGED LANDS, CONVEYANCE TO TERRITORY

Conveyance of submerged lands to the government of American Samoa, see section 1701 et seq. of this title.

§ 1662. Sovereignty of United States extended over Swains Island

The sovereignty of the United States over American Samoa is extended over Swains Island, which is made a part of American Samoa and placed under the jurisdiction of the adminis-

trative and judicial authorities of the government established therein by the United States.

(Mar. 4, 1925, ch. 563, 43 Stat. 1357.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 1431 of this title.

TRANSFER OF PERSONAL PROPERTY TO GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA

Pub. L. 96-597, title I, §101, Dec. 24, 1980, 94 Stat. 3477, provided that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the Government of the United States in personal property situated in American Samoa shall be transferred, without reimbursement, to the American Samoa government on October 1, 1981, unless the agency of the Government of the United States having administrative responsibility for the property advises the Secretary of the Interior in writing before the date of transfer that it has a continuing requirement for such property.”

TRANSFER OF CERTAIN PROPERTY TO GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA

Pub. L. 87-158, Aug. 17, 1961, 75 Stat. 392, authorized the Secretary of the Navy to transfer, without reimbursement or transfer of funds, to the government of American Samoa, within ninety days after August 17, 1961, title to all property, real and personal, located in American Samoa on that date which was owned by the United States and was within the administrative supervision of the Department of the Navy on such date.

SUBMERGED LANDS, CONVEYANCE TO TERRITORY

Conveyance of submerged lands to the government of American Samoa, see section 1701 et seq. of this title.

EX. ORD. NO. 10264. TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATION OF AMERICAN SAMOA

Ex. Ord. No. 10264, eff. June 29, 1951, 16 F.R. 6419, provided:

1. The administration of American Samoa is hereby transferred from the Secretary of the Navy to the Secretary of the Interior, such transfer to become effective on July 1, 1951.

2. The Department of the Navy and the Department of the Interior shall proceed with the plans for the transfer of administration of American Samoa as embodied in the above-mentioned memorandum of understanding between the two departments.

3. When the transfer of administration made by this order becomes effective, the Secretary of the Interior shall take such action as may be necessary and appropriate, and in harmony with applicable law, for the administration of civil government in American Samoa.

4. The executive departments and agencies of the Government are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Departments of the Navy and Interior in the effectuation of the provisions of this order.

5. The said Executive order of February 19, 1900 [Ex. Ord. 125-A], is revoked, effective July 1, 1951.

HARRY S. TRUMAN.

§ 1662a. Amendment of constitution of American Samoa

Amendments of, or modifications to, the constitution of American Samoa, as approved by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to Executive Order 10264 as in effect January 1, 1983, may be made only by Act of Congress.

(Pub. L. 98-213, §12, Dec. 8, 1983, 97 Stat. 1462.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order 10264, referred to in text, is set out under section 1662 of this title.