

“(3) ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Interior.”

AMENDMENT OF TRIBAL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Pub. L. 100-581, title I, §103, Nov. 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2939, provided that: “Nothing in this Act [probably means title I of Pub. L. 100-581 which amended this section and enacted provisions set out above] is intended to amend, revoke, or affect any tribal constitution, bylaw, or amendment ratified and approved prior to this Act.”

§ 5124. Incorporation of Indian tribes; charter; ratification by election

The Secretary of the Interior may, upon petition by any tribe, issue a charter of incorporation to such tribe: *Provided*, That such charter shall not become operative until ratified by the governing body of such tribe. Such charter may convey to the incorporated tribe the power to purchase, take by gift, or bequest, or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real and personal, including the power to purchase restricted Indian lands and to issue in exchange therefor interests in corporate property, and such further powers as may be incidental to the conduct of corporate business, not inconsistent with law; but no authority shall be granted to sell, mortgage, or lease for a period exceeding twenty-five years any trust or restricted lands included in the limits of the reservation. Any charter so issued shall not be revoked or surrendered except by Act of Congress.

(June 18, 1934, ch. 576, §17, 48 Stat. 988; Pub. L. 101-301, §3(c), May 24, 1990, 104 Stat. 207.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 477 of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

AMENDMENTS

1990—Pub. L. 101-301 substituted “by any tribe” for “by at least one-third of the adult Indians”, “by the governing body of such tribe” for “at a special election by a majority vote of the adult Indians living on the reservation”, and “twenty-five years any trust or restricted lands” for “ten years any of the land”.

§ 5125. Acceptance optional

This Act shall not apply to any reservation wherein a majority of the adult Indians, voting at a special election duly called by the Secretary of the Interior, shall vote against its application. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior, within one year after June 18, 1934, to call such an election, which election shall be held by secret ballot upon thirty days’ notice.

(June 18, 1934, ch. 576, §18, 48 Stat. 988.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in text, is act June 18, 1934, ch. 576, 48 Stat. 984, popularly known as the Indian Reorganization Act, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5101 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 478 of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

EXTENSIONS OF TIME

The time for holding an election under this section was extended to June 18, 1936, by act June 15, 1935, ch. 260, §2, 49 Stat. 378.

Act June 15, 1935, ch. 260, §3, 49 Stat. 378, provided that the periods of trust or the restrictions on alienation of Indian lands should be extended to Dec. 31, 1936, in case of a vote against the application of sections 5101 to 5103, 5107 to 5113, 5115, 5116, 5118, 5120, 5121, 5123 to 5125, and 5129 of this title.

§ 5126. Mandatory application of sections 5102 and 5124

Notwithstanding section 5125 of this title, sections 5102 and 5124 of this title shall apply to—

- (1) all Indian tribes,
- (2) all lands held in trust by the United States for Indians, and
- (3) all lands owned by Indians that are subject to a restriction imposed by the United States on alienation of the rights of the Indians in the lands.

(Pub. L. 101-301, §3(a), May 24, 1990, 104 Stat. 207.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 478-1 of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

§ 5127. Procedure

In any election heretofore or hereafter held under the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) [25 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.], on the question of excluding a reservation from the application of the said Act or on the question of adopting a constitution and bylaws or amendments thereto or on the question of ratifying a charter, the vote of a majority of those actually voting shall be necessary and sufficient to effectuate such exclusion, adoption, or ratification, as the case may be: *Provided, however*, That in each instance the total vote cast shall not be less than 30 per centum of those entitled to vote.

(June 15, 1935, ch. 260, §1, 49 Stat. 378.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of June 18, 1934, referred to in text, is act June 18, 1934, ch. 576, 48 Stat. 984, popularly known as the Indian Reorganization Act, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5101 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 478a of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

§ 5128. Application of laws and treaties

All laws, general and special, and all treaty provisions affecting any Indian reservation which has voted or may vote to exclude itself from the application of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) [25 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.], shall be deemed to have been continuously effective as to such reservation, notwithstanding the passage of said Act of June 18, 1934. Nothing in the Act of June 18, 1934, shall be construed to abrogate or impair any rights guaranteed under any existing treaty with any Indian tribe, where

such tribe voted not to exclude itself from the application of said Act.

(June 15, 1935, ch. 260, § 4, 49 Stat. 378.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of June 18, 1934, referred to in text, is act June 18, 1934, ch. 576, 48 Stat. 984, popularly known as the Indian Reorganization Act, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5101 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 478b of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

§ 5129. Definitions

The term “Indian” as used in this Act shall include all persons of Indian descent who are members of any recognized Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction, and all persons who are descendants of such members who were, on June 1, 1934, residing within the present boundaries of any Indian reservation, and shall further include all other persons of one-half or more Indian blood. For the purposes of this Act, Eskimos and other aboriginal peoples of Alaska shall be considered Indians. The term “tribe” wherever used in this Act shall be construed to refer to any Indian tribe, organized band, pueblo, or the Indians residing on one reservation. The words “adult Indians” wherever used in this Act shall be construed to refer to Indians who have attained the age of twenty-one years.

(June 18, 1934, ch. 576, § 19, 48 Stat. 988.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in text, is act June 18, 1934, ch. 576, 48 Stat. 984, popularly known as the Indian Reorganization Act, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5101 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 479 of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

ADMISSION OF ALASKA AS STATE

Admission of Alaska into the Union was accomplished Jan. 3, 1959, on issuance of Proc. No. 3269, Jan. 3, 1959, 24 F.R. 81, 73 Stat. c16, as required by sections 1 and 8(c) of Pub. L. 85-508, July 7, 1958, 72 Stat. 339, set out as notes preceding section 21 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§ 5130. Definitions

For the purposes of this title:¹

(1) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) The term “Indian tribe” means any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe.

(3) The term “list” means the list of recognized tribes published by the Secretary pursuant to section 5131 of this title.

¹ See References in Text note below.

(Pub. L. 103-454, title I, § 102, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4791.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This title, referred to in introductory provisions, is title I of Pub. L. 103-454, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4791, which enacted this section, section 5131 of this title, and provisions set out as a note below. For complete classification of this title to the Code, see Short Title of 1994 Amendment note set out under section 5101 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 479a of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

SHORT TITLE

For short title of this section and section 5131 of this title as the “Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994”, see section 101 of Pub. L. 103-454, set out as a note under section 5101 of this title.

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

Pub. L. 103-454, title I, § 103, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4791, provided that: “The Congress finds that—

“(1) the Constitution, as interpreted by Federal case law, invests Congress with plenary authority over Indian Affairs;

“(2) ancillary to that authority, the United States has a trust responsibility to recognized Indian tribes, maintains a government-to-government relationship with those tribes, and recognizes the sovereignty of those tribes;

“(3) Indian tribes presently may be recognized by Act of Congress; by the administrative procedures set forth in part 83 of the Code of Federal Regulations denominated ‘Procedures for Establishing that an American Indian Group Exists as an Indian Tribe;’ or by a decision of a United States court;

“(4) a tribe which has been recognized in one of these manners may not be terminated except by an Act of Congress;

“(5) Congress has expressly repudiated the policy of terminating recognized Indian tribes, and has actively sought to restore recognition to tribes that previously have been terminated;

“(6) the Secretary of the Interior is charged with the responsibility of keeping a list of all federally recognized tribes;

“(7) the list published by the Secretary should be accurate, regularly updated, and regularly published, since it is used by the various departments and agencies of the United States to determine the eligibility of certain groups to receive services from the United States; and

“(8) the list of federally recognized tribes which the Secretary publishes should reflect all of the federally recognized Indian tribes in the United States which are eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.”

§ 5131. Publication of list of recognized tribes

(a) Publication of list

The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a list of all Indian tribes which the Secretary recognizes to be eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

(b) Frequency of publication

The list shall be published within 60 days of November 2, 1994, and annually on or before every January 30 thereafter.