

# THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## TITLE 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS

*This title was enacted by act July 30, 1947, ch. 388, § 1, 61 Stat. 633*

Chap.		Sec.
<b>1.</b>	<b>Rules of construction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Acts and resolutions; formalities of enactment; repeals; sealing of instruments .....</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Code of Laws of United States and Supplements; District of Columbia Code and Supplements .....</b>	<b>201</b>

### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

#### POSITIVE LAW; CITATION

This title has been made positive law by section 1 of act July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633, which provided in part that: "Title 1 of the United States Code entitled 'General Provisions', is codified and enacted into positive law and may be cited as '1 U. S. C., § —.'"

#### REPEALS

Act July 30, 1947, ch. 388, § 2, 61 Stat. 640, provided that the sections or parts thereof of the Statutes at Large or the Revised Statutes covering provisions codified in this Act are repealed insofar as the provisions appeared in former Title 1, and provided that any rights or liabilities now existing under the repealed sections or parts thereof shall not be affected by the repeal.

#### WRITS OF ERROR

Act June 25, 1948, ch. 646, § 23, 62 Stat. 990, provided that: "All Acts of Congress referring to writs of error shall be construed as amended to the extent necessary to substitute appeal for writ of error."

TABLE SHOWING DISPOSITION OF ALL SECTIONS OF  
FORMER TITLE 1

Title 1 Former Sections	Revised Statutes Statutes at Large	Title 1 New Sections
1 .....	R.S., § 1 .....	1
2 .....	R.S., § 2 .....	2
3 .....	R.S., § 3 .....	3
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5 .....	R.S., § 5 .....	5
6 .....	June 11, 1940, ch. 325, § 1, 54 Stat. 305 .....	6
21 .....	R.S., § 7 .....	101
22 .....	R.S., § 8 .....	102
23 .....	R.S., § 9 .....	103
24 .....	R.S., § 10 .....	104
25 .....	R.S., § 11 .....	105
26 .....	Nov. 1, 1893, 28 Stat. App. 5 .....	106
	Mar. 2, 1895, ch. 177, § 1, 28 Stat. 769.	
27 .....	Mar. 6, 1920, ch. 94, § 1, 41 Stat. 520 .....	107
28 .....	R.S., § 12 .....	108
29 .....	R.S., § 13 .....	109
	Mar. 22, 1944, ch. 123, 58 Stat. 118.	

TABLE SHOWING DISPOSITION OF ALL SECTIONS OF  
FORMER TITLE 1—Continued

Title 1 Former Sections	Revised Statutes Statutes at Large	Title 1 New Sections
29a .....	R.S., § 5599 .....	110
29b .....	Mar. 3, 1933, ch. 202, § 3, 47 Stat. 1431 .....	111
30 .....	Jan. 12, 1895, ch. 23, § 73, 28 Stat. 615 .....	112
	June 20, 1936, ch. 630, § 9, 49 Stat. 1551.	
	June 16, 1938, ch. 477, § 1, 52 Stat. 760.	
30a .....	R.S., § 908 .....	113
31 .....	R.S., § 6 .....	114
51a .....	Mar. 2, 1929, ch. 586, § 1, 45 Stat. 1540 .....	201
52 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 2, 45 Stat. 1007 .....	202
	Mar. 2, 1929, ch. 586, § 2, 45 Stat. 1541.	
53 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 3, 45 Stat. 1007 .....	203
54 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 4, 45 Stat. 1007 .....	204
	Mar. 2, 1929, ch. 586, § 3, 45 Stat. 1541.	
54a .....	Mar. 2, 1929, ch. 586, § 4, 45 Stat. 1542 .....	205
	Mar. 4, 1933, ch. 282, § 1, 47 Stat. 1603.	
	June 13, 1934, ch. 483, §§ 1, 2, 48 Stat. 948.	
54b .....	Mar. 2, 1929, ch. 586, § 5, 45 Stat. 1542 .....	206
	Mar. 4, 1933, ch. 282, § 1, 47 Stat. 1603.	
	June 13, 1934, ch. 483, §§ 1, 2, 48 Stat. 948.	
54c .....	Mar. 2, 1929, ch. 586, § 6, 45 Stat. 1542 .....	207
54d .....	Mar. 2, 1929, ch. 586, § 7, 45 Stat. 1542 .....	208
55 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 5, 45 Stat. 1007 .....	209
56 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 6, 45 Stat. 1007 .....	210
57 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 7, 45 Stat. 1008 .....	211
58 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 8, 45 Stat. 1008 .....	212
59 .....	May 29, 1928, ch. 910, § 10, 45 Stat. 1008 .....	213
60 .....	Mar. 3, 1933, ch. 202, § 2, 47 Stat. 1431 .....	Rep.

### CHAPTER 1—RULES OF CONSTRUCTION

Sec.	
1.	Words denoting number, gender, etc. <sup>1</sup>
2.	"County" as including "parish", etc. <sup>1</sup>
3.	"Vessel" as including all means of water transportation.
4.	"Vehicle" as including all means of land transportation.
5.	"Company" or "association" as including successors and assigns.
6.	Limitation of term "products of American fisheries."
7.	Definition of "marriage" and "spouse".
8.	"Person", "human being", "child", and "individual" as including born-alive infant.

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2002—Pub. L. 107-207, § 2(b), Aug. 5, 2002, 116 Stat. 926, added item 8.  
1996—Pub. L. 104-199, § 3(b), Sept. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2420, added item 7.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Does not conform to section catchline.

**§ 1. Words denoting number, gender, and so forth**

In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, unless the context indicates otherwise—

words importing the singular include and apply to several persons, parties, or things;

words importing the plural include the singular;

words importing the masculine gender include the feminine as well;

words used in the present tense include the future as well as the present;

the words “insane” and “insane person” shall include every idiot, insane person, and person non compos mentis;

the words “person” and “whoever” include corporations, companies, associations, firms, partnerships, societies, and joint stock companies, as well as individuals;

“officer” includes any person authorized by law to perform the duties of the office;

“signature” or “subscription” includes a mark when the person making the same intended it as such;

“oath” includes affirmation, and “sworn” includes affirmed;

“writing” includes printing and typewriting and reproductions of visual symbols by photographing, multigraphing, mimeographing, manifolding, or otherwise.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633; June 25, 1948, ch. 645, § 6, 62 Stat. 859; Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 655, § 1, 65 Stat. 710; Pub. L. 112-231, § 2(a), Dec. 28, 2012, 126 Stat. 1619.)

**Editorial Notes****AMENDMENTS**

2012—Pub. L. 112-231, in fifth clause after opening clause, struck out “and ‘lunatic’” before “shall include every” and “lunatic,” before “insane person.”

1951—Act Oct. 31, 1951, substituted, in fourth clause after opening clause, “used” for “use”.

1948—Act June 25, 1948, included “tense”, “whoever”, “signature”, “subscription”, “writing” and a broader definition of “person”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****SHORT TITLE OF 2012 AMENDMENT**

Pub. L. 112-231, § 1, Dec. 28, 2012, 126 Stat. 1619, provided that: “This Act [amending this section and sections 92a, 215, and 215a of Title 12, Banks and Banking] may be cited as the ‘21st Century Language Act of 2012’.”

**SHORT TITLE OF 2002 AMENDMENT**

Pub. L. 107-207, § 1, Aug. 5, 2002, 116 Stat. 926, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 8 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Born-Alive Infants Protection Act of 2002’.”

**SHORT TITLE OF 1996 AMENDMENT**

Pub. L. 104-199, § 1, Sept. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2419, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 7 of this title and section 1738C of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure] may be cited as the ‘Defense of Marriage Act’.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 116-260**

Pub. L. 116-260, § 3, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 1185, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, see

Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

Pub. L. 116-260, div. K, title VII, § 7034(q)(7), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 1754, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in titles I through VII [of div. K of Pub. L. 116-260, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of such titles.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 116-159**

Pub. L. 116-159, § 3, Oct. 1, 2020, 134 Stat. 709, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 116-136**

Pub. L. 116-136, § 3, Mar. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 285, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or the CARES Act, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 116-127**

Pub. L. 116-127, § 3, Mar. 18, 2020, 134 Stat. 178, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Families First Coronavirus Response Act, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 116-94**

Pub. L. 116-94, § 3, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2536, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

Pub. L. 116-94, div. F, title VI, § 612, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2815, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in this division [div. F of Pub. L. 116-94, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this division.”

Pub. L. 116-94, div. H, title IV, § 420, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 3017, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in this division [div. H of Pub. L. 116-94, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this division.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 116-93**

Pub. L. 116-93, § 3, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2318, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 116-6**

Pub. L. 116-6, § 3, Feb. 15, 2019, 133 Stat. 14, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

**REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 115-245**

Pub. L. 115-245, § 3, Sept. 28, 2018, 132 Stat. 2981, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019, see