

CHAPTER 99—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec.	
1631.	Transfer to cure want of jurisdiction.

§ 1631. Transfer to cure want of jurisdiction

Whenever a civil action is filed in a court as defined in section 610 of this title or an appeal, including a petition for review of administrative action, is noticed for or filed with such a court and that court finds that there is a want of jurisdiction, the court shall, if it is in the interest of justice, transfer such action or appeal to any other such court (or, for cases within the jurisdiction of the United States Tax Court, to that court) in which the action or appeal could have been brought at the time it was filed or noticed, and the action or appeal shall proceed as if it had been filed in or noticed for the court to which it is transferred on the date upon which it was actually filed in or noticed for the court from which it is transferred.

(Added Pub. L. 97-164, title III, §301(a), Apr. 2, 1982, 96 Stat. 55; amended Pub. L. 115-332, §2, Dec. 19, 2018, 132 Stat. 4487.)

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

2018—Pub. L. 115-332 inserted “(or, for cases within the jurisdiction of the United States Tax Court, to that court)” after “any other such court”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section effective Oct. 1, 1982, see section 402 of Pub. L. 97-164, set out as an Effective Date of 1982 Amendment note under section 171 of this title.

PART V—PROCEDURE

Chap.		Sec.
111.	General Provisions	1651
113.	Process	1691
114.	Class Actions	1711
115.	Evidence; Documentary	1731
117.	Evidence; Depositions	1781
119.	Evidence; Witnesses	1821
121.	Juries; Trial by Jury	1861
123.	Fees and Costs	1911
125.	Pending Actions and Judgments	1961
127.	Executions and Judicial Sales	2001
129.	Moneys Paid into Court	2041
131.	Rules of Courts	2071
133.	Review—Miscellaneous Provisions	2101

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

2005—Pub. L. 109-2, §3(b), Feb. 18, 2005, 119 Stat. 9, added item for chapter 114.

CHAPTER 111—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec.	
1651.	Writs.
1652.	State laws as rules of decision.
1653.	Amendment of pleadings to show jurisdiction.
1654.	Appearance personally or by counsel.
1655.	Lien enforcement; absent defendants.
1656.	Creation of new district or division or transfer of territory; lien enforcement.

Sec.	
1657.	Priority of civil actions.
1658.	Time limitations on the commencement of civil actions arising under Acts of Congress.
1659.	Stay of certain actions pending disposition of related proceedings before the United States International Trade Commission.

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

1994—Pub. L. 103-465, title III, §321(b)(1)(B), Dec. 8, 1994, 108 Stat. 4946, added item 1659.

1990—Pub. L. 101-650, title III, §313(b), Dec. 1, 1990, 104 Stat. 5115, added item 1658.

1984—Pub. L. 98-620, title IV, §401(b), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3357, added item 1657.

§ 1651. Writs

(a) The Supreme Court and all courts established by Act of Congress may issue all writs necessary or appropriate in aid of their respective jurisdictions and agreeable to the usages and principles of law.

(b) An alternative writ or rule nisi may be issued by a justice or judge of a court which has jurisdiction.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 646, 62 Stat. 944; May 24, 1949, ch. 139, §90, 63 Stat. 102.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES**1948 ACT**

Based on title 28, U.S.C., 1940 ed., §§342, 376, 377 (Mar. 3, 1911, ch. 231, §§234, 261, 262, 36 Stat. 1156, 1162).

Section consolidates sections 342, 376, and 377 of title 28, U.S.C., 1940 ed., with necessary changes in phraseology.

Such section 342 provided:

“The Supreme Court shall have power to issue writs of prohibition to the district courts, when proceeding as courts of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; and writs of mandamus, in cases warranted by the principles and usages of law, to any courts appointed under the authority of the United States, or to persons holding office under the authority of the United States, where a State, or an ambassador, or other public minister, or a consul, or vice consul is a party.”

Such section 376 provided:

“Writs of ne exeat may be granted by any justice of the Supreme Court, in cases where they might be granted by the Supreme Court; and by any district judge, in cases where they might be granted by the district court of which he is a judge. But no writ of ne exeat shall be granted unless a suit in equity is commenced, and satisfactory proof is made to the court or judge granting the same that the defendant designs quickly to depart from the United States.”

Such section 377 provided:

“The Supreme Court and the district courts shall have power to issue writs of scire facias. The Supreme Court, the circuit courts of appeals, and the district courts shall have power to issue all writs not specifically provided for by statute, which may be necessary for the exercise of their respective jurisdictions, and agreeable to the usages and principles of law.”

The special provisions of section 342 of title 28, U.S.C., 1940 ed., with reference to writs of prohibition and mandamus, admiralty courts and other courts and officers of the United States were omitted as unnecessary in view of the revised section.

The revised section extends the power to issue writs in aid of jurisdiction, to all courts established by Act of Congress, thus making explicit the right to exercise powers implied from the creation of such courts.

The provisions of section 376 of title 28, U.S.C., 1940 ed., with respect to the powers of a justice or judge in