Public Law 96-227
96th Congress

An Act

Apr. 3, 1980
[H.R. 4996]

To restore to the Shivwits, Kanosh, Koosharem, and Indian Peaks Bands of Paiute Indians of Utah, and with respect to the Cedar City Band of Paiute Indians of Utah, to restore or confirm, the Federal trust relationship, to restore to members of such Bands those Federal services and benefits furnished to American Indian Tribes by reason of such trust relationship, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah Restoration Act".

Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah Restoration Act.
25 USC 761 note.

SEC. 2. For the purposes of this Act—

Definitions.
25 USC 761.

(1) the term "tribe" means the Cedar City, Shivwits, Kanosh, Koosharem, and Indian Peaks Bands of Paiute Indians of Utah;

(2) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative;

(3) the term "Interim Council" means the council elected pursuant to section 5;

(4) the term "member", when used with respect to the tribe, means a person enrolled on the membership roll of the tribe, as provided in section 4 of this Act; and

(5) the term "final membership roll" means the final membership roll of the tribe published on April 15, 1955, on pages 2499 through 2503 of volume 20 of the Federal Register and on April 14, 1956, on pages 2453 through 2456 of volume 21 of the Federal Register.

Federal trust relationship, restoration.
25 USC 762.

SEC. 3. (a) The Federal trust relationship is restored to the Shivwits, Kanosh, Koosharem, and Indian Peaks Bands of Paiute Indians of Utah and restored or confirmed with respect to the Cedar City Band of Paiute Indians of Utah. The provisions of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) as amended, except as inconsistent with specific provisions of this Act, are made applicable to the tribe and the members of the tribe. The tribe and the members of the tribe shall be eligible for all Federal services and benefits furnished to federally recognized Indian tribes. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in any law establishing such services or benefits, eligibility of the tribe and its members for such Federal services and benefits shall become effective upon enactment of this Act without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe or the residence of members of the tribe on a reservation. For the purpose of providing for Federal services and benefits, the service area shall be Iron, Millard, Sevier, and Washington Counties, Utah, except that should lands in any other county be added to the reservation pursuant to section 7(c), the service area shall also include the area on or near the additions to the reservation.

25 USC 461.

Effective date.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), all rights and privileges of the tribe and of members of the tribe under any Federal treaty, Executive order, agreement, or statute, or under any other authority, which were diminished or lost under the Act of September 1, 1954 (68 Stat. 1099), are hereby restored, and such Act shall be inapplicable to

25 USC 741.

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the tribe and to members of the tribe after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) This Act shall not grant or restore any hunting, fishing, or trapping right of any nature, including any indirect or procedural right or advantage, to the tribe or any member of the tribe.

(d) Except as specifically provided in this Act, nothing in this Act shall alter any property right or obligation, any contractual right or obligations, or any obligation for taxes already levied.

Final tribal membership roll. 25 USC 763.

SEC. 4. (a) The final membership roll is declared open. The Secretary, the Interim Council, and tribal officials under the tribal constitution and bylaws shall take such measures as will insure the continuing accuracy of the membership roll.

Membership qualifications.

(b)(1) Until after the initial election of tribal officers under the tribal constitution and bylaws, a person shall be a member of the tribe and his name shall be placed on the membership roll if he is living and if—

(A) his name is listed on the final membership roll;

(B) he was entitled on September 1, 1954, to be on the final membership roll but his name was not listed on that roll;

(C) he is a descendant of a person specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) and possesses at least one-fourth degree of blood of members of the tribe or their Paiute Indian ancestors;

(D) his name is listed on the roll established pursuant to the Act of October 17, 1968 (82 Stat. 1147), for the disposition of judgment funds, as a member of the Cedar City Band of Paiute Indians;

(E) he was entitled on October 17, 1968, to be on the judgment distribution roll as a member of the Cedar City Band as specified in subparagraph (D) but his name was not listed on that roll; or

(F) he is a descendant of a person specified in subparagraph (D) or (E) and possesses at least one-fourth degree of blood of members of the tribe or their Paiute Indian ancestors.

(2) After the initial election of tribal officials under the tribal constitution and bylaws, the provisions of the tribal constitution and bylaws shall govern membership in the tribe.

Verification of descendancy, age, and blood.

(c)(1) Before election of the Interim Council, verification of descendancy, age, and blood shall be made upon oath before the Secretary and his determination thereon shall be final.

(2) After election of the Interim Council and before the initial election of the tribal officials, verification of descendancy, age, and blood shall be made upon oath before the Interim Council, or its authorized representative. A member of the tribe, with respect to the inclusion of any name, and any person, with respect to the exclusion of his name, may appeal to the Secretary, who shall make a final determination of each such appeal within ninety days after an appeal has been filed with him. The determination of the Secretary with respect to an appeal under this paragraph shall be final.

(3) After the initial election of tribal officials, the provisions of the tribal constitution and bylaws shall govern the verification of any requirements for membership in the tribe, and the Secretary and the Interim Council shall deliver their records and files, and other material relating to enrollment matters, to the tribal governing body.

(d) For purposes of sections 5 and 6, a member who is eighteen years of age or older is entitled and eligible to be given notice of, attend, participate in, and vote at, general council meetings and to nominate candidates for, to run for any office in, and to vote in, elections of members to the Interim Council and to other tribal councils.

Interim Council. 25 USC 764.

SEC. 5. (a) Within forty-five days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall announce the date of a general council meeting of the tribe to nominate candidates for election to the Interim Council. Such general council meeting shall be held within sixty days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Within forty-five days after such general council meeting the Secretary shall hold an election by secret ballot, absentee balloting to be permitted, to elect six members of the tribe to the Interim Council from among the nominees submitted to him from such general council meeting. The Secretary shall assure that notice of the time, place, and purpose of such meeting and election shall be provided to members described in section 4(d) at least fifteen days before such general meeting and election. The ballot shall provide for write-in votes. The Secretary shall approve the Interim Council elected pursuant to this section if he is satisfied that the requirements of this section relating to the nominating and election process have been met. If he is not so satisfied, he shall hold another election under this section, with the general council meeting to nominate candidates for election to the Interim Council to be held within sixty days after such election.

(b) The Interim Council shall represent the tribe and its members in the implementation of this Act and shall be the acting tribal governing body until tribal officials are elected pursuant to section 6(c) and shall have no powers other than those given to it in accordance with this Act. The Interim Council shall have full authority and capacity to receive grants from and to make contracts with the Secretary and the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare with respect to Federal services and benefits for the tribe and its members: *Provided,* That no authority to enter into contracts or to make payments under this Act shall be effective except to such extent or in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts. The Interim Council shall have the authority to bind the tribal governing body as the successor in interest to the Interim Council for a period extending not more than six months after the date on which the tribal governing body takes office. Except as provided in the preceding sentence, the Interim Council shall have no power or authority after the time when the duly-elected tribal governing body takes office.

(c) Within thirty days after receiving notice of a vacancy on the Interim Council, the Interim Council shall hold a general council meeting for the purpose of electing a person to fill such vacancy. The Interim Council shall provide notice of the time, place, and purpose of such meeting and election to members described in section 4(d) at least ten days before such general meeting and election. The person nominated to fill such vacancy at the general council meeting who received the highest number of votes in the election shall fill such vacancy.

Tribal constitution and bylaws. 25 USC 765. 25 USC 461.

SEC. 6. (a) Upon the written request of the Interim Council, the Secretary shall conduct an election by secret ballot, pursuant to the provisions of section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 987), for the purpose of adopting a constitution and bylaws for the tribe. The election shall be held within sixty days after the Secretary has—

(1) reviewed and updated the final membership roll for accuracy, in accordance with sections 4(a), 4(b)(1), and 4(c)(1),

(2) made a final determination of all appeals filed under section 4(c)(2), and

(3) published in the Federal Register a certified copy of the membership roll of the tribe.

Publication in Federal Register.

(b) The Interim Council shall draft and distribute to each member described in section 4(d), no later than thirty days before the election under subsection (a), a copy of the proposed constitution and bylaws of the tribe, as drafted by the Interim Council, along with a brief and impartial description of the proposed constitution and bylaws. The members of the Interim Council may freely consult with members of the tribe concerning the text and description of the constitution and bylaws, except that such consultation may not be carried on within fifty feet of the polling places on the date of the election.

(c) In any election held pursuant to subsection (a), a vote of a majority of those actually voting shall be necessary and sufficient for the adoption of a tribal constitution and bylaws.

(d) Not later than one hundred and twenty days after the tribe adopts a constitution and bylaws, the Interim Council shall conduct an election by secret ballot for the purpose of electing the individuals who will serve as tribal officials as provided in the tribal constitution and bylaws. For the purpose of this election and notwithstanding any provision in the tribal constitution and bylaws to the contrary, absentee balloting shall be permitted.

Indian lands.
25 USC 766.

SEC. 7. (a) The Secretary, within one year following the date of the enactment of this Act, shall accept the real property of members of the tribe or bands if conveyed or otherwise transferred to him, and real property held for the benefit of members of the tribe or bands if conveyed or otherwise transferred to him by the owner or owners of such land held for the benefit of the bands. Such property shall be subject to all valid existing rights including, but not limited to, liens, outstanding taxes (local and State), and mortgages. The land transferred to the Secretary pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to foreclosure or sale pursuant to the terms of any valid existing obligation in accordance with the laws of the State of Utah. Subject to the conditions imposed by this subsection, the land transferred shall be taken in the name of the United States in trust for the tribe or bands to be held as Indian lands are held, and shall be part of their reservation. The transfer of real property authorized by this section shall be exempt from all local, State, and Federal taxation. All real property transferred under this section shall, as of the date of transfer, be exempt from all local, State, and Federal taxation.

(b) The State of Utah shall exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction with respect to the reservation and persons on the reservation as if it had assumed jurisdiction pursuant to the Act of August 15, 1953 (67 Stat. 588), as amended by the Act of April 11, 1968 (82 Stat. 79), and pursuant to sections 63-36-9 through 63-36-21 of the Utah State Code.

28 USC 1360 note.

(c) Inasmuch as the Kanosh, Koosharem and Indian Peaks Bands of Paiute Indians lost land which had been their former reservations and the Cedar City Band of Paiute Indians had never had a reservation, the Secretary shall negotiate with the tribe or bands, or with representatives of the tribe chosen by the tribe or bands, concerning the enlargement of the reservation for the tribe established pursuant to subsection (a) and shall within two years after the date of enactment of this Act, develop a plan for the enlargement of the reservation for the tribe. The plan shall include acquisition of not to exceed a total of fifteen thousand acres of land to be selected from available public, State, or private lands within Beaver, Iron, Millard, Sevier, or Washington Counties, Utah. Upon approval of such plan by the tribal officials elected under the tribal constitution and bylaws adopted pursuant to section 6, the Secretary shall submit such plan, in the form of proposed legislation, to the Congress.

Reservation enlargement plan, submittal to Congress.

(d) To assure that legitimate State and local interests are not prejudiced by the enlargement of the reservation for the tribe, the Secretary, in developing the plan under subsection (c) for the enlargement of the reservation for the tribe, shall notify and consult with all appropriate officials of the State of Utah, all appropriate local government officials in the affected five county area in the State of Utah and any other interested parties. Such consultation shall include the following subjects:

(1) the size and location of the additions to the reservation;

(2) the effect the enlargement of the reservation would have on State and local tax revenues;

(3) the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the State of Utah with respect to the reservation and persons on the reservation;

(4) hunting, fishing, and trapping rights of the tribe, and members of the tribe, on the reservation;

(5) the provision of State and local services to the reservation and to the tribe and members of the tribe on the reservation; and

(6) the provision of Federal services to the reservation and to the tribe and members of the tribe and the provision of services by the tribe to members of the tribe.

(e) Any plan developed under this section for the enlargement of the reservation for the tribe shall provide that—

(1) the enlargement of the reservation will not grant or restore to the tribe or any member of the tribe any hunting, fishing, or trapping right of any nature, including any indirect or procedural right or advantage, on such addition to the reservation;

(2) the Secretary shall not accept any real property in trust for the benefit of the tribe or bands unless such real property is located either within Beaver, Iron, Millard, Sevier, or Washington Counties, State of Utah;

(3) the transfer of any real property to the Secretary in trust for the benefit of the tribe or bands as an addition to the reservation shall be exempt from all Federal, State, and local taxation, and all such real property shall, as of the date of such transfer, be exempt from Federal, State, and local taxation; and

(4) the State of Utah shall exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction with respect to the addition to the reservation and persons on such lands as if it had assumed jurisdiction pursuant to the Act of August 15, 1953 (67 Stat. 588), as amended by the Act of April 11, 1968 (82 Stat. 79), and pursuant to sections 63-36-9 through 63-36-21 of the Utah State Code.

28 USC 1360 note.

(f) The Secretary shall append to the plan a detailed statement describing the manner in which the notification and consultation prescribed by subsection (d) was carried out and shall include any written comments with respect to the enlargement of the reservation for the tribe submitted to the Secretary by State and local officials and other interested parties in the course of such consultation.

Claims for Indian lands. 25 USC 767.

SEC. 8. Any legal claims for lands owned by the Shivwits, Kanosh, Koosharem, or Indian Peaks Bands of Paiute Indians of Utah and lost through tax sales or any other sales to individuals, corporations, or the State of Utah since September 1, 1954, are hereby barred.

25 USC 768.

SEC. 9. The Secretary may make such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act.

Approved April 3, 1980.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 97-712 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
SENATE REPORT No. 96-481 accompanying S. 1273 (Comm. on Indian Affairs).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 125 (1979): Dec. 19, S. 1273 considered and passed Senate.
Vol. 126 (1980): Feb. 25, H.R. 4996 considered and passed House.
Mar. 11, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Mar. 25, House concurred in Senate amendments.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS:
Vol. 16, No. 14 (1980): Apr. 3, Presidential statement.