Public Law 696

CHAPTER 569

AN ACT

To transfer six hundred acres of public domain to the Kanosh Band of Indians, Utah.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following-described public domain is hereby declared to be held by the United States in trust for the Kanosh Band of the Paiute Indian Tribe in Utah, subject to the provisions of the Act of September 1, 1954 (68 Stat. 1099), with respect to the termination of Federal supervision over all property of such Indians: The southeast quarter, east half northeast quarter, and the northwest quarter northeast quarter, section 35, township 22 south, range 5 west; the west half west half, section 14, and the east half east half, section 15, township 23 south, range 5 west, Salt Lake meridian, Utah, containing 600 acres.

Approved July 11, 1956.

Public Law 697

CHAPTER 570

AN ACT

To amend the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 to restrict its application to insurance which has been in effect six months at the time benefits are sought under such Act.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (a) of section 400 of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 is amended by striking out "thirty" and inserting in lieu thereof "one hundred and eighty".

SEC. 2. The amendment made by this Act shall take effect with respect to applications for benefits made after the date of enactment of this Act.

Approved July 11, 1956.

Public Law 698

CHAPTER 571

AN ACT

To allow a homesteader settling on unsurveyed public land in Alaska to make single final proof prior to survey of the lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 2 of the Act of July 8, 1916, as amended (48 U. S. C. 375) is further amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 2. The entryman may, after due compliance with the terms of the homestead laws, file his final homestead proof in accordance with applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior regardless of whether or not the system of public surveys has been extended over the land included in a homestead entry. The Secretary of the Interior shall, within one year after the filing of such proof, issue proper instructions for the survey of the land so entered, without expense to the entryman, and if the entryman has complied with the requirements of the homestead law and applicable regulations a patent based on such survey shall be issued. Nothing in this section, however, shall prevent the homesteader from securing earlier action on his entry and proof by a special survey at his own expense, if he so elects."
SEC. 2. Section 4 of the Act of April 29, 1950 (48 U. S. C. 371c) is amended to read as follows:

"A homestead settler on unsurveyed public lands shall make final or commutation homestead proof within five years from the date of the filing of notice of the settlement claim in the district land office, as a basis for a free survey under section 2 of the Act of July 8, 1916, as amended (48 U. S. C. 375) in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of the Interior."

Approved July 11, 1956.

Public Law 699

AN ACT

To clarify the law relating to the grant of certain public lands to the States for school purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (d) of the first section of the Act of January 25, 1927 (43 U. S. C. sec. 870), is amended to read as follows:

(d) (1) Notwithstanding subsection (c), the fact that there is outstanding on any numbered school section, whether or not mineral in character, at the time of its survey a mineral lease or leases entered into by the United States, or an application therefor, shall not prevent the grant of such numbered school section to the State concerned as provided by this Act.

(2) Any such numbered school section which has been surveyed prior to the date of approval of this amendment, and which has not been granted to the State concerned solely by reason of the fact that there was outstanding on it at the time of the survey a mineral lease or leases entered into by the United States, or an application therefor, is hereby granted by the United States to such State under this section as if it had not been so leased; and the State shall succeed the position of the United States as lessor under such lease or leases.

(3) Any such numbered school section which is surveyed on or after the date of approval of this amendment and on which there is outstanding at the time of such survey a mineral lease or leases entered into by the United States, shall (unless excluded from the provisions of this section by subsection (c) for a reason other than the existence of an outstanding lease) be granted to the State concerned immediately upon completion of such survey; and the State shall succeed to the position of the United States as lessor under such lease or leases.

(4) The Secretary of the Interior shall, upon application by a State, issue patents to the State for the lands granted by this Act, in accordance with the Act of June 12, 1934 (48 Stat. 1185, 43 U. S. C. 871a). Such patent shall, if the lease is then outstanding, include a statement that the State succeeded to the position of the United States as lessor at the time the title vested in the State.

(5) Where at the time rents, royalties, and bonuses accrue the lands or deposits covered by a single lease are owned in part by the State and in part by the United States, the rents, royalties, and bonuses shall be allocated between them in proportion to the acreage in said lease owned by each.

(6) As used in this subsection, 'lease' includes 'permit' and 'lessor' includes 'grantor'."

Approved July 11, 1956.