

25 USC CHAPTER 14, SUBCHAPTER VII: REINDEER INDUSTRY

From Title 25—INDIANS
CHAPTER 14—MISCELLANEOUS

SUBCHAPTER VII—REINDEER INDUSTRY**§500. Purpose**

A necessity for providing means of subsistence for the Eskimos and other natives of Alaska is hereby declared to exist. It is also declared to be the policy of Congress, and the purpose of this subchapter, to establish and maintain for the said natives of Alaska a self-sustaining economy by acquiring and organizing for and on behalf of said natives a reindeer industry or business, by encouraging and developing native activity and responsibility in all branches of the said industry or business, and by preserving the native character of the said industry or business thus established. (Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §1, 50 Stat. 900.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

SHORT TITLE

Act Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, 50 Stat. 900, as amended, which enacted this subchapter, is popularly known as the "Reindeer Industry Act of 1937".

REPEALS

Section 17 of act Sept. 1, 1937, provided: "All Acts of Congress or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed."

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Section 16 of act Sept. 1, 1937, authorized the appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the use of the Secretary of the Interior in carrying out this subchapter.

§500a. Acquisition of reindeer and other property

The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed, to acquire, in the name of the United States, by purchase or other lawful means, including exercise of the power of eminent domain, for and on behalf of the Eskimos and other natives of Alaska, reindeer, reindeer-range equipment, abattoirs, cold-storage plants, warehouses, and other property, real or personal, the acquisition of which he determines to be necessary to the effectuation of the purposes of this subchapter. Any condemnation proceedings undertaken by virtue of the authority granted in this section shall conform, as nearly as may be, to the procedure provided for the condemnation of real estate by sections 257 and 258 ¹ of title 40, or to that provided by sections 258a to 258e–1 of title 40: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall authorize the Secretary of the Interior to consolidate native-owned herds of reindeer with herds owned by others than natives prior to the purchase or acquisition of such herds of others than natives.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §2, 50 Stat. 900.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 258 of title 40, referred to in text, was omitted from the Code. See rule 71A, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, set out in the Appendix to Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250a of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

¹ See *References in Text* note below.

§500b. Filing claim of title to reindeer by nonnatives

All persons, other than natives of Alaska, who upon September 1, 1937, claim title to any Alaskan reindeer shall, within one year after September 1, 1937, file in Alaska, with the duly authorized agent or agents of the Secretary of the Interior, declarations of their ownership. Similar declarations concerning Alaskan reindeer acquired by any person not a native of Alaska by purchase or by gift at any time after September 1, 1937, shall be filed as aforesaid within thirty days after the date of such acquisition. Records of all declarations thus filed shall be made and kept open to public inspection in Alaska. If any owner of Alaskan reindeer, to whom the foregoing provisions of this section are applicable, shall fail to file the required declaration within the stated period, he shall be barred thereafter from asserting his claim of title.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §3, 50 Stat. 900.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250b of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500c. Acceptance of gifts

The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to receive, in the name of the United States, for and on behalf of said natives of Alaska, gifts made for the purposes of this subchapter.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §4, 50 Stat. 900.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250c of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500d. Acceptance and expenditure of Federal funds

The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to receive and expend, for the purposes of this subchapter, properly authorized loans, grants, or allocations made to him for said purposes by Federal agencies.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §5, 50 Stat. 900.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250d of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500e. Revolving fund; moneys not to be covered into Treasury

Except as herein otherwise specially provided, none of the moneys collected or received by the Secretary of the Interior in his administration of this subchapter shall be paid into the Treasury, but all such moneys shall constitute a revolving fund to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior for the purposes of this subchapter.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §6, 50 Stat. 900.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Herein, referred to in text, means act Sept. 1, 1937, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250e of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500f. Management of industry by Secretary; aim of management

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to organize and manage the reindeer industry or business provided for by this subchapter in such manner as to establish and maintain for said natives of Alaska a complete and self-sustaining economy and to encourage and develop the activity and responsibility of said natives in all branches of said industry or business.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §7, 50 Stat. 900.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250f of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500g. Distribution of reindeer, property, and profits to natives

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to distribute the reindeer and other property acquired by the United States under this subchapter among the Eskimos or other natives of Alaska, or to corporations, associations, or organizations of said natives, either in the form of gifts or under such conditions as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, and to execute and deliver appropriate instruments of title, or to hold and use the same in trust for the use and benefit of said natives, with a view of effecting the widest possible distribution of such reindeer and other property among those natives of Alaska who are in need thereof and who can make proper use of the same: *Provided*, That during the period of the trust, income derived directly from the sale of reindeer and reindeer products as provided in this subchapter shall be exempt from Federal income taxation. The Secretary of the Interior may from time to time, in such manner as he determines to be proper for effectuating the purposes of this subchapter, distribute among those of said natives or corporations, associations, or other organizations of said natives, who are engaged in said industry or business or for whose subsistence reindeer are necessary, whatever profits may be earned by that part of the industry or business which is owned by the United States and which may, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Interior, be distributed in accordance with sound business practice.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §8, 50 Stat. 901; Pub. L. 99–514, title XVII, §1709(a), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2783.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250g of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

AMENDMENTS

1986—Pub. L. 99–514 inserted proviso directing that during the period of the trust, income derived directly from the sale of reindeer and reindeer products as provided in this subchapter shall be exempt from Federal income taxation.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Section 1709(b) of Pub. L. 99–514 provided that: "The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall take effect as if originally included in the provision of the Act of September 1, 1937, to which such amendment relates."

§500h. Grant of administrative powers to organizations of natives

The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to grant, in his discretion and subject to such terms as he may impose, to any corporations, associations, or other organizations of said natives any or all of the powers relating to the administration of the reindeer industry or business herein provided for, upon a finding by him as to each grant that it is in the interests of the said natives of Alaska and will serve the purposes of this subchapter.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §9, 50 Stat. 901.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Herein, referred to in text, means act Sept. 1, 1937, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250h of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500i. Alienation of reindeer or interests; penalty

Live reindeer in Alaska, and the increase thereof, acquired by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to this subchapter, and live reindeer in Alaska, and the increase thereof, owned by the said natives of Alaska or corporations, associations, or other organizations of said natives, however acquired, shall not be sold or transferred, by descent, devise, or in any other manner whatsoever, to anyone other than the said natives of Alaska the United States for and on behalf of said natives, or corporations, associations, or other organizations of said natives, except with the consent in writing of the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized agent, stating that such consent is given upon the condition that the reindeer, and any increase thereof, sold or otherwise transferred with said consent, shall either be butchered in the Territory of Alaska within thirty days or shipped out of said Territory and never brought back alive into said Territory. Sales or other transfers of said reindeer, if made without the consent in writing herein required, or, although made with said consent, if followed by failure to comply with the condition therein required, shall be null and

void, and shall not pass any title to or right to possession of any reindeer or increase thereof. No stock or other interest in any corporation, association, or other organization of said natives, engaged in or organized for the purposes of engaging in the reindeer industry or business, shall be transferred, by descent, devise, or in any other manner whatsoever, to anyone other than said natives of Alaska, the United States for and on behalf of said natives, or corporations, associations, or other organizations of said natives. Any willful violation of the provisions of this section by any vendee or other transferee shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$500: *Provided*, That no title to any reindeer, or reindeer products, owned by the United States for and on behalf of the said natives of Alaska, nor any title to reindeer, or reindeer products, owned by any of said natives or said corporations, associations, or other organizations of said natives, nor any stock or other interest in said corporations, associations, or other organizations of said natives, shall be transferred by descent, device,¹ or in any other manner whatsoever, except pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior for the purposes of preserving the native character of the reindeer industry or business in Alaska and effectuating the other purposes of this subchapter: *Provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent any native of Alaska who owns reindeer or any interest therein through stock ownership, or otherwise, in any corporation or association or other organization owning reindeer, from transferring his reindeer, or any interest therein, to his children or other native relatives by gift, sale, devise, or bequest, or prevent the same from being so transferred or passed by descent.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §10, 50 Stat. 901.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Herein, referred to in text, means act Sept. 1, 1937, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250i of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

¹ *So in original. Probably should be "devise,."*

§500j. "Reindeer" defined

"Reindeer" as used in this subchapter shall be understood to include reindeer and such caribou as have been introduced into animal husbandry or have actually joined reindeer herds, and the increase thereof.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §11, 50 Stat. 902.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250j of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500k. Rules and regulations

The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as, in his judgment, are necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this subchapter.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §12, 50 Stat. 902.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250k of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500l. Appointment of natives to administer industry

Whenever, in his judgment, it is practicable and to the best interests of the natives the Secretary shall appoint natives to the supervisory and other positions in the administration of such reindeer industry or business.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §13, 50 Stat. 902.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250l of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500m. Use of public lands; violation

In order to coordinate the use of public lands in Alaska for grazing reindeer with the purposes of this subchapter, the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to regulate the grazing of reindeer upon said lands. He may, in his discretion, define reindeer ranges and regulate the use thereof for grazing reindeer; issue grazing permits; regulate and control all round-ups, handlings, markings, and butcherings of reindeer upon said public lands; and may issue rules and regulations to carry into effect the provisions of this section. Any person who willfully violates any of the rules and regulations promulgated for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than one year or by a fine of not more than \$500.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §14, 50 Stat. 902.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250m of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§500n. "Natives of Alaska" defined

The term "natives of Alaska" as used herein shall be deemed to mean the native Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts of whole or part blood inhabiting Alaska at the time of the Treaty of Cession of Alaska to the United States and their descendants of whole or part blood, together with the Indians and Eskimos who, since the year 1867 and prior to September 1, 1937, have migrated into Alaska from the Dominion of Canada, and their descendants of the whole or part blood.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 897, §15, 50 Stat. 902.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Herein, referred to in text, means act Sept. 1, 1937, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 250n of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.