SEC. 2. Section 4 of the Act of April 29, 1950 (48 U. S. C. 371c) is amended to read as follows: 64 Stat. 95.

"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

CHAPTER 572

AN ACT

July 11, 1956
[H. R. 11127]

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:

School lands.
Grants to States.
68 Stat. 57.

"(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.

Mineral leases.

"(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.

Patents.

"(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.

Apportionment of rents, etc.

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

Definitions.

Approved July 11, 1956.