THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TITLE 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS

This title was enacted by act July 30, 1947, ch. 388, §1, 61 Stat. 633

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CHAPTER 1—RULES OF CONSTRUCTION


Amendments


§1. Words denoting number, gender, and so forth

In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, unless the context indicates otherwise—

1 So in original. Does not conform to section catchline.
words importing the singular include and apply to several persons, parties, or things; words importing the plural include the singular;
words importing the masculine gender include the feminine as well;
words used in the present tense include the future as well as the present;
the words “insane” and “insane person” shall include every idiot, insane person, and person non compos mentis;
the words “person” and “whoever” include corporations, companies, associations, firms, partnerships, societies, and joint stock companies, as well as individuals;
“officer” includes any person authorized by law to perform the duties of the office;
“signature” or “subscription” includes a mark when the person making the same intended it as such;
“oath” includes affirmation, and “sworn” includes affirmed;
“writing” includes printing and typewriting and reproductions of visual symbols by photographeing, multigraphing, mimeographing, manifolding, or otherwise.


AMENDMENTS

2012—Pub. L. 112–231, in fifth clause after opening clause, struck out “and ‘lunatic’ ” before “shall include every” and “lunatic,” before “insane person,”.
1951—Act Oct. 31, 1951, substituted, in fourth clause after opening clause, “used” for “use”.
1948—Act June 25, 1948, included “tense”, “whoever”, “signature”, “subscription”, “writing” and a broader definition of “person”.

SHORT TITLE OF 2012 AMENDMENT


SHORT TITLE OF 2002 AMENDMENT


SHORT TITLE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 104–199, §1, Sept. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2419, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 7 of this title and section 178C of Title 20, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure] may be cited as the ‘Defense of Marriage Act’.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 112–74

Pub. L. 112–74, §3, Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 787, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 112–55

Pub. L. 112–55, §3, Nov. 18, 2011, 125 Stat. 552, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 111–18

Pub. L. 111–18, §3, Dec. 19, 2009, 123 Stat. 3409, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2011, see Tables for classification] shall apply solely to this division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 111–17

Pub. L. 111–17, §3, Dec. 16, 2009, 123 Stat. 3035, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 111–8

Pub. L. 111–8, §3, Mar. 11, 2009, 123 Stat. 525, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 111–5

Pub. L. 111–5, §4, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 116, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 110–329

Pub. L. 110–329, §3, Sept. 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 3574, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ or ‘this joint resolution’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 110–116

Pub. L. 110–116, §2, Nov. 13, 2007, 121 Stat. 1295, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2007, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 110–8


REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 109–148

otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in either division A [Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006, see Tables for classification] or division B [Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act to Address Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico and Pandemic Influenza, 2006, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 109–115


REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 108–447

Pub. L. 108–447, §3, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2610, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 108–199

Pub. L. 108–199, §3, Jan. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 108–7

Pub. L. 108–7, §3, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 12, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

Pub. L. 86–70, §48, June 25, 1959, 73 Stat. 154, provided that: “Whenever, in the statutes of the United States, the word ‘company’ or ‘association’, when used in reference to a corporation, shall be deemed to embrace the words ‘successors and assigns of such company or association’, in like manner as if these last-named words, or words of similar import, were expressed.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633.)

§6. Limitation of term “products of American fisheries”

Wherever, in the statutes of the United States or in the rulings, regulations, or interpretations of various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States there appears or may appear the term ‘products of American fisheries’, said term shall not include fresh or frozen fish fillets, fresh or frozen fish steaks, or fresh or frozen slices of fish substantially free of bone (including any of the foregoing divided into sections), produced in a foreign country or its territorial waters, in whole or in part with the use of the labor of persons who are not residents of the United States.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 634.)

§7. Definition of “marriage” and “spouse”

In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the word “marriage” means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word “spouse” refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife.

(Added Pub. L. 104–199, §3(a), Sept. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2419.)

§8. “Person”, “human being”, “child”, and “individual” as including born-alive infant

(a) In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the words “person”, “human being”, “child”, and “individual”, shall include every infant member of the species homo sapiens who is born alive at any stage of development.

(b) As used in this section, the term “born alive”, with respect to a member of the species homo sapiens, means the complete expulsion or extraction from his or her mother of that member, at any stage of development, who after such expulsion or extraction breathes or has a beating heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, regardless of whether the umbilical cord has been cut, and regardless of whether the expulsion or extraction occurs as a result of natural or induced labor, cesarean section, or induced abortion.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affirm, deny, expand, or contract any legal status or legal right applicable to any member of the species homo sapiens at any point prior to being “born alive” as defined in this section.

CHAPTER 2—ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS; FORMALITIES OF ENACTMENT; REPEALS; SEALING OF INSTRUMENTS

Sec. 101. Enacting clause.

102. Resolving clause.

103. Enacting or resolving words after first section.

104. Numbering of sections; single proposition.

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112. Statutes at Large; contents; admissibility in evidence.

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AMENDMENTS