

Public Law 94-465
94th Congress

An Act

Oct. 8, 1976
[S. 2981]

To authorize appropriations for the Indian Claims Commission for fiscal year 1977, and for other purposes.

Indian Claims
Commission.
Appropriation
authorization.
Termination
date, extension.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of the Indian Claims Commission Act (25 U.S.C. 70), during fiscal year 1977, not to exceed \$1,650,000.

SEC. 2. Section 23 of the Act entitled "An Act to create an Indian Claims Commission, to provide for the powers, duties, and functions thereof, and for other purposes", approved August 13, 1946 (60 Stat. 1049, 1055), as amended (86 Stat. 115; 25 U.S.C. 70v), is hereby amended by striking said section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"DISSOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION AND DISPOSITION OF PENDING CLAIMS

"SEC. 23. The existence of the Commission shall terminate at the end of fiscal year 1978 on September 30, 1978, or at such earlier time as the Commission shall have made its final report to the Congress on all claims filed with it. Upon its dissolution, the records and files of the Commission in all cases in which a final determination has been entered shall be delivered to the Archivist of the United States. No later than December 31, 1976, the Indian Claims Commission may certify and transfer to the Court of Claims all cases which the Commission determines it cannot completely adjudicate by September 30, 1978. In addition, the Commission may, at any time prior to September 30, 1978, certify and transfer to the Court of Claims any case which it determines cannot be completely adjudicated prior to the dissolution of the Commission. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon the Court of Claims to adjudicate all such cases under the provisions of section 2 of the Indian Claims Commission Act: *Provided*, That section 2 of said Act shall not apply to any cases filed originally in the Court of Claims under section 1505 of title 28, United States Code. Upon dissolution of the Commission, all pending cases including those on appeal shall be transferred to the Court of Claims for adjudication on the same basis as those authorized to be transferred by this section."

SEC. 3. Section 28 of such Act of August 13, 1946, as amended (25 U.S.C. 70v-2), is amended by striking said section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Report to
congressional
committees.

"STATUS REPORT TO CONGRESS

"SEC. 28. The Commission shall, on the first day of the 95th Congress, submit a report to the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives on those cases which it has transferred pursuant to section 23 of this Act, as amended. In addition, the Commission shall submit a report to said Committees at six month intervals thereafter showing the progress made and the work remaining to be completed by the Commission, as well as the status of each remaining case, along with the projected date for its completion."

25 USC 70v.

Approved October 8, 1976.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT NO. 94-1150 accompanying H.R. 11909 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORT NO. 94-737 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

Apr. 9, considered and passed Senate.

Aug. 3, considered and passed House, amended, in lieu of H.R. 11909.

Sept. 28, Senate agreed to conference report.

Sept. 29, House agreed to conference report.