

(R.S. § 456; July 31, 1894, ch. 174, § 7, 28 Stat. 207; 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 403, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7876, 60 Stat. 1100.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

R.S. § 456 derived from act Apr. 25, 1812, ch. 68, § 9, 2 Stat. 717.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions of other officers, employees, and agencies of Department of the Interior, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Interior, with power to delegate, see Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1950, §§ 1, 2, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1262, set out under section 1451 of this title.

“Secretary of the Interior or such officer as he may designate” substituted for “Commissioner of the General Land Office” on authority of section 403 of Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1946. See note set out under section 1 of this title.

#### § 15. Issuance and signing of patents by Secretary of the Interior; delegation of authority; notice

All patents for public lands shall be issued and signed by the Secretary of the Interior in the name of the United States: *Provided*, That the Secretary may delegate his authority under this section to officers or employees of the Department of the Interior, but notice of any such delegation shall be given by publication in the Federal Register.

(June 17, 1948, ch. 496, § 1, 62 Stat. 476.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 15, R.S. § 458; 1940 Reorg. Plan No. III, § 4 eff. June 30, 1940, 5 F.R. 2108, 54 Stat. 1232; 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 403, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7876, 60 Stat. 1100, related to issuance of patents, prior to repeal by section 2(c) of act June 17, 1948.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions of other officers, employees, and agencies of Department of the Interior, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Interior, with power to delegate, see Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1950, §§ 1, 2, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1262, set out under section 1451 of this title.

#### § 16. Engrossing and recording patents

The engrossing and recording of patents for public lands may be done by means of typewriters or other machines, under regulations to be made by the Secretary of the Interior and approved by the President.

(Mar. 2, 1895, ch. 177, § 3, 28 Stat. 807.)

#### § 17. Plats of land surveyed

The Secretary of the Interior or such officer as he may designate shall, when required by the President or either House of Congress, make a plat of any land surveyed under the authority of the United States, and give such information respecting the public lands and concerning the

business of the Bureau of Land Management as shall be directed.

(R.S. § 455; 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 403, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7876, 60 Stat. 1100.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

R.S. § 455 derived from act Apr. 25, 1812, ch. 68, § 6, 2 Stat. 717.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions of other officers, employees, and agencies of Department of the Interior, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Interior, with power to delegate, see Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1950, §§ 1, 2, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1262, set out under section 1451 of this title.

“Secretary of the Interior or such officer as he may designate” substituted for “Commissioner of the General Land Office” and “Bureau of Land Management” for “his office” on authority of section 403 of Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1946. See note set out under section 1 of this title.

#### § 18. Copies of papers filed

Whenever any person claiming to be interested in or entitled to land, under any grant or patent from the United States, applies to the Department of the Interior for copies of papers filed and remaining therein, in anywise affecting the title to such land, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to cause such copies to be made out and authenticated, under his hand and the seal of the Bureau of Land Management, for the person so applying.

(R.S. § 460; 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 403, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7876, 60 Stat. 1100.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

R.S. § 460 derived from acts Jan. 23, 1823, ch. 6, 3 Stat. 721; July 4, 1836, ch. 352, § 7, 5 Stat. 111.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions of other officers, employees, and agencies of Department of the Interior, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Interior, with power to delegate, see Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1950, §§ 1, 2, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1262, set out under section 1451 of this title.

“Bureau of Land Management” substituted for “General Land Office” on authority of section 403 of Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1946. See note set out under section 1 of this title.

#### §§ 19 to 21. Repealed. Dec. 16, 1930, ch. 14, § 1, 46 Stat. 1029

Section 19, R.S. § 2469, related to certified copies of records of the General Land Office.

Section 20, R.S. § 2470, related to exemplification of the records of the General Land Office as evidence.

Section 21, R.S. § 461; acts Apr. 2, 1888, ch. 54, 25 Stat. 76; Oct. 12, 1888, ch. 1098, 25 Stat. 557; May 29, 1908, ch. 220, § 15, 35 Stat. 469; June 5, 1920, ch. 235, § 1, 41 Stat. 908, related to fees for exemplifications.

For Department of the Interior record provisions and Government records and papers, see section 1460 et seq.