

Natives. The funds apportioned among each Native group may be advanced, expended, invested, or reinvested for any purpose that is authorized by the governing organization of the Native group and that is approved by the Commission established by this Act. Each year the remaining funds then in the special account shall be credited to the Corporation and such funds, together with all other revenues available to the Corporation, may be expended by the Corporation, in accordance with an annual budget prepared by the Corporation and approved by said Commission.

(c) Before apportioning any money under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section to the Native groups composed of Tlingit and Haida Natives who participated in or received benefits from, the judgment awarded to the Tlingit and Haida Natives in Court of Claims docket numbered 47,900, the Secretary shall deduct the pro rata share, after the deduction of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, of said money judgment.

METLAKAHTLA INDIANS

SEC. 15. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to the Native groups of Metlakahla Indians in the Annette Island Reservation but such groups shall be eligible to receive any benefits the Corporation may provide.

ALASKA NATIVE COMMISSION

SEC. 16. In order to assist the Secretary in the administration of this Act, the President may appoint an Alaska Native Commission of not to exceed three members who shall serve at the pleasure of the President. A majority of the members shall have been residents of Alaska for one or more years preceding appointment. The Commission shall be located within the Department of the Interior and shall have the duties and powers prescribed in this Act and such other duties and powers as the Secretary may from time to time delegate. The Secretary shall also prescribe the compensation to be paid to the members and provide for payment of Commission expenses, including employment of necessary personnel. The Secretary may utilize, with or without reimbursement, personnel and facilities of the Department of the Interior to assist the Commission in carrying out its functions.

NATIONAL FOREST LANDS

SEC. 17. The Native groups shall qualify as communities within the meaning of section 6(a) of the Alaska Statehood Act.

APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 18. (a) There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to defray the costs of the planning, subdivision, survey, management, and disposal of lands under this Act, either directly by the Secretary or by contract, and to pay the expenses of the Commission established by this Act, and to carry out other functions authorized by this Act. Such sums shall be available until expended.

(b) There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to pay all reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses actually incurred by any Native or Native group, as determined by the Secretary, in connection with any claims pending at the date of enactment of this Act before the Indian Claims Commission, which have been terminated by reason of section 4 of this act.

(c) At the beginning of each Congress the Secretary shall report to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate the grants made under this Act and an estimate of the time needed to complete the grants. The reporting may be discontinued when the grants are substantially completed.

REPEAL

SEC. 19. Section 3 of the Act of May 25, 1926 (44 Stat. 630; 48 U.S.C. 355c) is hereby repealed.

BRIEF EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROVISIONS OF PROPOSED "ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1968"

1. The proposal would provide that the benefits accruing under the legislation to the Native groups shall be in full and final settlement of any and all claims