

TRANSFER OF LAND TO INDIANS

Public Law 86-421

In 1960, the Navajo Tribe needed an 81-acre tract of land located near Crownpoint, New Mexico. The land had been used in connection with an Indian school by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and was desired by the Tribe as a location for overnight accommodations and recreational facilities. Senator Anderson introduced legislation to grant this property to the Navajo Indians. This legislation became law on April 9, 1960.

Public Law 88-303

The Bureau of Indian Affairs had acquired 80 acres of land from the Alamo Band of Puertocito Navajo Indians for administrative purposes. The uses for which the land was acquired no longer existed and the land became surplus to the Government. Senator Anderson sponsored legislation to transfer the land back to the Indians.

Public Law 87-288

The Jicarilla Indians had a problem in developing and maintaining water facilities to serve the Indian Agency, the boarding school, and their health center because 341.43 acres of land were not owned by the Tribe. They could not very well finance these facilities unless they owned the land and watershed. Senator Anderson introduced legislation which transferred this land to the Jicarilla Indians.

Public Law 87-696

In 1931 the United States purchased seven acres of land in the Jicarilla Indian Reservation for administrative uses. In 1953 the improvements on the land were transferred back to the Indians for use in forest fire protection. The Government had no need for the land and desired to transfer the title back to the Tribe. Senator Anderson sponsored legislation to accomplish this.

Public Law 89-445

The Government had acquired 99.84 acres of land from a private owner who had settled on this tract prior to creation of the Mescalero Reservation. The land was purchased for \$10,000 and was used as an Indian agency. It was desired to turn this over to the Tribe, and Senator Anderson sponsored legislation to accomplish this. The value of land and improvements was offset against the Mescalero claim.

Public Law 81-226

The need existed to adjust a long-standing unsettled condition in the use of 612,000 acres of land by the following eight Indian tribes in New Mexico: Zuni, Acoma, Laguna, Isleta, Zia, San Ildefonso and Jemez Pueblos and the Canoncito Navajo group.

The lands were purchased by the United States Government under various emergency relief rehabilitation acts for use of Indians and had been used by the Indian tribes to such an extent that they had become an integral part of the livestock operations and the economic lives of the Indians. Senator Anderson introduced legislation transferring these lands to the tribes in trust. The bill became law on August 13, 1949.

Public Law 84-926

The Federal Government had purchased the Ojo del Espiritu Santo grant under authority of the National Recovery Act and this land had been used exclusively for the Indians of Zia and Jemez. The Secretary of Agriculture desired to dispose of the land under the submarginal program. The transfer of the land to the two Indian tribes would give them greater economic security. This was recommended by the Department of Agriculture and the Administration. The transfer was for 41,216 acres to the Pueblo of Zia and 36,352 to the Pueblo of Jemez. Senator Anderson sponsored legislation to transfer this land.

Public Law 86-13

In 1959, a meeting place was desired for the All-Indian Pueblo Council within the Santo Domingo Indian Reservation in New Mexico. Senator Anderson introduced legislation to authorize the conveyance, in trust, of 4.45 acres of surplus Federal land and improvements valued at \$35,000 to the Santo Domingo Pueblo. This legislation became law on April 22, 1959.