

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 550

To amend the Indian Land Consolidation Act to improve provisions relating to probate of trust and restricted land, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 6, 2003

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. INOUYE, and Mr. THOMAS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Indian Land Consolidation Act to improve provisions relating to probate of trust and restricted land, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Indian Pro-
5 bate Reform Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Act of February 8, 1887 (commonly
9 known as the “Indian General Allotment Act”) (25

1 U.S.C. 331 et seq.), which authorized the allotment
2 of Indian reservations, did not permit Indian allot-
3 ment owners to provide for the testamentary disposi-
4 tion of the land that was allotted to them;

5 (2) that Act provided that allotments would de-
6 scend according to State law of intestate succession
7 based on the location of the allotment;

8 (3) the reliance of the Federal Government on
9 the State law of intestate succession with respect to
10 the descent of allotments has resulted in numerous
11 problems affecting Indian tribes, members of Indian
12 tribes, and the Federal Government, including—

13 (A) the increasingly fractionated ownership
14 of trust and restricted land as that land is in-
15 herited by successive generations of owners as
16 tenants in common;

17 (B) the application of different rules of in-
18 testate succession to each interest of a decedent
19 in or to trust or restricted land if that land is
20 located within the boundaries of more than 1
21 State, which application—

22 (i) makes probate planning unneces-
23 sarily difficult; and

24 (ii) impedes efforts to provide probate
25 planning assistance or advice;

(C) the absence of a uniform general probate code for trust and restricted land, which makes it difficult for Indian tribes to work cooperatively to develop tribal probate codes; and

(D) the failure of Federal law to address or provide for many of the essential elements of general probate law, either directly or by reference, which—

(i) is unfair to the owners of trust and restricted land (and heirs and devisees of owners); and

(ii) makes probate planning more difficult; and

(4) a uniform Federal probate code would like-

(A) reduce the number of fractionated interests in trust or restricted land;

(B) facilitate efforts to provide probate planning assistance and advice;

(C) facilitate intertribal efforts to produce tribal probate codes in accordance with section 206 of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2205); and

(D) provide essential elements of general probate law that are not applicable on the date

1 of enactment of this Act to interests in trust or
2 restricted land.

3 **SEC. 3. INDIAN PROBATE REFORM.**

4 (a) TESTAMENTARY DISPOSITION.—Section 207 of
5 the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2206) is
6 amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(a) TESTAMENTARY DISPOSITION.—

9 “(1) GENERAL DEVISE OF AN INTEREST IN
10 TRUST OR RESTRICTED LAND.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to any appli-
12 cable Federal law relating to the devise or de-
13 scent of trust or restricted land, or a tribal pro-
14 bate code enacted in accordance with section
15 206, the owner of an interest in trust or re-
16 stricted land may devise such an interest to—

17 “(i) an Indian tribe with jurisdiction
18 over the land; or

19 “(ii) any Indian in trust or restricted
20 status (or as a passive trust interest as
21 provided for in section 207A).

22 “(B) STATUS.—The devise of an interest
23 in trust or restricted land to an Indian under
24 subparagraph (A)(ii) shall not alter the status
25 of such an interest as a trust or restricted in-

1 terest unless the testator provides that the in-
2 terest is to be held as a passive trust interest.

3 “(2) DEVISE OF TRUST OR RESTRICTED LAND
4 IN PASSIVE TRUST OR FEE.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
6 under any applicable Federal law, any interest
7 in trust or restricted land that is not devised in
8 accordance with paragraph (1) may be devised
9 only—

10 “(i) as a life estate to any non-Indian
11 person, with the remainder being devised
12 only in accordance with clause (ii), sub-
13 paragraph (C), or paragraph (1)(A);

14 “(ii) to the lineal descendant or heir
15 of the first or second degree of the testator
16 or, if the testator does not have an heir of
17 the first or second degree or a lineal de-
18 scendant, to any lineal descendant of an
19 Indian grandparent of the testator, as a
20 passive trust interest (referred to in this
21 section as an ‘eligible passive trust devi-
22 see’); or

23 “(iii) in fee in accordance with sub-
24 paragraph (C).

1 “(B) PRESUMED DEVISE OF PASSIVE
2 TRUST INTEREST.—Any devise to an eligible
3 passive trust devisee, or any devise of a remain-
4 der interest from the devise of a life estate
5 under subparagraph (A)(ii), that does not indi-
6 cate whether the interest is devised as a passive
7 trust interest or a fee interest shall be consid-
8 ered to devise a passive trust interest.

9 “(C) DEVISE OF A FEE INTEREST.—Sub-
10 ject to subparagraph (D), any interest in trust
11 or restricted land that is not devised in accord-
12 ance with paragraph (1), or devised to an eligi-
13 ble passive trust devisee in accordance with sub-
14 paragraph (A), may be devised to a non-Indian
15 in fee.

16 “(D) LIMITATION.—Any interest in trust
17 or restricted land that is subject to section 4 of
18 the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 464), may
19 be devised only in accordance with—

- 20 “(i) that section;
21 “(ii) subparagraph (A); or
22 “(iii) paragraph (1).

23 “(3) DEVISE OF A PASSIVE TRUST INTEREST.—
24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The holder of an in-
25 terest in trust or restricted land that is held as

1 a passive trust interest may devise the interest
2 as a passive trust interest only to—

3 “(i)(I) any Indian; or
4 “(II) the Indian tribe that exercises
5 jurisdiction over the interest;

6 “(ii) the lineal descendants, or heirs
7 of the first or second degree, of the holder;

8 “(iii) any living descendant of the de-
9 cedent from whom the holder acquired the
10 interest by devise or descent; or

11 “(iv) any person that owns a pre-
12 existing interest or a passive trust interest
13 in the same parcel of land, if the pre-
14 existing interest is held in trust or re-
15 stricted status or in passive trust status.

16 “(B) INELIGIBLE DEVISEES AND INTES-
17 TATE SUCCESSION.—A passive trust interest
18 that is devised to a person that is not eligible
19 under subparagraph (A) or that is not disposed
20 of by a valid will shall pass in accordance with
21 the applicable law of intestate succession as
22 provided for in subsection (b).”.

23 (b) NONTESTAMENTARY DISPOSITION.—Section 207
24 of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2206)

1 is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
2 following:

3 **“(b) NONTESTAMENTARY DISPOSITION.—**

4 **“(1) RULES OF DESCENT.—**Subject to any ap-
5 plicable Federal law relating to the devise or descent
6 of trust or restricted property, any interest in trust
7 or restricted land that is not disposed of by a valid
8 will—

9 “(A) shall descend according to a tribal
10 probate code that is approved in accordance
11 with section 206; or

12 “(B) in the case of an interest in trust or
13 restricted land to which such a code does not
14 apply, shall descend in accordance with—

15 “(i) paragraphs (2) through (7);

16 “(ii) section 207A; and

17 “(iii) other applicable Federal law.

18 **“(2) NO APPLICABLE CODE.—**An intestate in-
19 terest to which a code described in paragraph (1)
20 does not apply—

21 “(A) shall include—

22 “(i) an interest acquired by a dece-
23 dent through devise or inheritance (re-
24 ferred to in this subsection as a ‘devise or
25 inheritance interest’); or

1 “(ii) an interest acquired by a dece-
2 dent by any means other than devise or in-
3 heritance (referred to in this subsection as
4 an ‘acquired interest’), if—

5 “(I) the decedent—

6 “(aa) acquired additional
7 undivided interest in the same
8 parcel in which the interest is
9 held, by a means other than de-
10 vise or inheritance; or

11 “(bb) acquired land adjoin-
12 ing the parcel of land in which
13 the interest is held; or

14 “(II) the parcel of land in which
15 the interest is held includes the resi-
16 dence of the spouse of the decedent;
17 and

18 “(B) shall descend as follows:

19 “(i) SURVIVING INDIAN SPOUSE.—

20 “(I) IN GENERAL.—If a decedent
21 is survived by an Indian spouse, and
22 the estate of the decedent includes 1
23 or more acquired interests, the spouse
24 of the decedent shall receive all of the
25 acquired interests.

1 “(II) DEVISE OR INHERITANCE
2 INTERESTS.—If a decedent is survived
3 by an Indian spouse, and the estate of
4 the decedent includes 1 or more devise
5 or inheritance interests—

6 “(aa) if the decedent is not
7 survived by an Indian heir of the
8 first or second degree, the spouse
9 of the decedent shall receive all
10 of the devise or inheritance inter-
11 ests; and

12 “(bb) if the decedent is sur-
13 vived by an Indian heir of the
14 first or second degree, the devise
15 or inheritance interest of the de-
16 cedent shall descend in accord-
17 ance with paragraph (3)(A).

18 “(ii) SURVIVING NON-INDIAN
19 SPOUSE.—

20 “(I) IN GENERAL.—If a decedent
21 is survived by a non-Indian spouse,
22 and the estate of the decedent in-
23 cludes 1 or more acquired interests—

1 “(aa) the spouse of the dece-
2 dent shall receive a life estate in
3 each acquired interest; and

4 “(bb)(AA) if the decedent is
5 survived by an Indian heir of the
6 first or second degree, the re-
7 mainder interests shall descend
8 in accordance with paragraph
9 (3)(A); and

10 “(BB) if the decedent is not
11 survived by an Indian heir of the
12 first or second degree, the re-
13 mainder interest shall descend in
14 accordance with paragraph
15 (3)(C).

16 “(II) DEVISE OR INHERITANCE
17 INTERESTS.—If the estate of a dece-
18 dent described in subclause (I) in-
19 cludes 1 or more devise or inheritance
20 interests—

21 “(aa) if the decedent is sur-
22 vived by an Indian heir of the
23 first or second degree, the devise
24 or inheritance interests shall de-

1 scend in accordance with para-
2 graph (3)(A); and

3 “(bb) if the decedent is not
4 survived by an Indian heir of the
5 first or second degree, the devise
6 or inheritance interests shall de-
7 scend in accordance with para-
8 graph (3)(C).

9 “(iii) NO SURVIVING SPOUSE.—If a
10 decedent is not survived by a spouse, and
11 the estate of the decedent includes 1 or
12 more acquired interests or 1 or more de-
13 vise or inheritance interests—

14 “(I) if the decedent is survived by
15 an Indian heir of the first or second
16 degree, the acquired interests or de-
17 vise or inheritance interests shall de-
18 scend in accordance with paragraph
19 (3)(A); and

20 “(II) if the decedent is not sur-
21 vived by an Indian heir of the first or
22 second degree, the acquired interests
23 or devise or inheritance interests shall
24 descend in accordance with paragraph
25 (3)(C).

1 “(3) RULES GOVERNING DESCENT OF ES-
2 TATE.—

3 “(A) INDIAN HEIRS.—For the purpose of
4 this section, an Indian heir of the first or sec-
5 ond degree shall inherit in the following order:

6 “(i) To the Indian children of the de-
7 cedent (or if 1 or more of those Indian
8 children do not survive the decedent, the
9 Indian children of the deceased child of the
10 decedent, by right of representation) shall
11 inherit in equal shares.

12 “(ii) If the decedent has no Indian
13 children (or grandchildren that inherit by
14 right of representation under clause (i)), to
15 the Indian brothers and sisters of the dece-
16 dent, in equal shares.

17 “(iii) If the decedent has no Indian
18 brothers or sisters, to the Indian parent or
19 parents of the decedent.

20 “(B) RIGHT OF REPRESENTATION.—In
21 any case involving the determination of a right
22 of representation—

23 “(i) each interest in trust land shall
24 be equally divided into a number of shares
25 that equals the sum obtained by adding—

1 “(I) the number of surviving
2 heirs in the nearest degree of kinship;
3 and

4 “(II) the number of deceased in-
5 dividuals in that same degree, if any,
6 who left issue who survive the dece-
7 dent;

8 “(ii) each surviving heir described in
9 clause (i)(I) shall receive 1 share; and

10 “(iii)(I) each deceased individual de-
11 scribed in clause (i)(II) shall receive 1
12 share; and

13 “(II) that share shall be divided
14 equally among the surviving issue of the
15 deceased person.

16 “(C) NO INDIAN HEIRS.—

17 “(i) DEFINITION OF COLLATERAL
18 HEIR.—In this subparagraph, the term
19 ‘collateral heir’ means an aunt, uncle,
20 niece, nephew, or first cousin of a dece-
21 dent.

22 “(ii) NO HEIRS.—If a decedent does
23 not have an Indian heir of the first or sec-
24 ond degree, an interest shall descend to
25 any Indian collateral heir who is a co-

1 owner of an interest owned by the dece-
2 dent.

3 “(iii) MULTIPLE COLLATERAL
4 HEIRS.—If—

5 “(I) an Indian collateral heir
6 owns an interest to which clause (ii)
7 applies that is larger than the interest
8 held by any other such collateral heir,
9 the interest shall descend to the col-
10 lateral heir that owns the largest un-
11 divided interest in the parcel; or

12 “(II) 2 or more collateral heirs
13 own equal shares in an interest to
14 which clause (ii) applies, the interest
15 shall be divided equally among those
16 collateral heirs.

17 “(iv) NO OWNERSHIP.—If none of the
18 Indian collateral heirs of a decedent owns
19 an interest to which clause (ii) applies,
20 subject to clause (v), the interest shall de-
21 scend to the Indian tribe that exercises ju-
22 risdiction over the parcel of trust or re-
23 stricted land involved.

24 “(v) ACQUISITION OF INTEREST.—

1 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Notwith-
2 standing clause (iv), an Indian co-
3 owner of a parcel of trust or restricted
4 land may acquire an interest that
5 would otherwise descend under that
6 clause by paying into the estate of the
7 decedent, before the close of the pro-
8 bate of the estate, the fair market
9 value of the interest in or to the land.

10 “(II) MULTIPLE CO-OWNERS.—If
11 more than 1 Indian co-owner (includ-
12 ing the Indian tribe referred to in
13 clause (iv)) offers to pay for an inter-
14 est described in subclause (I), the
15 highest bidder shall acquire the inter-
16 est.

17 “(4) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO SURVIVAL.—
18 In the case of intestate succession under this sec-
19 tion, if an individual who fails to survive a decedent
20 by at least 120 hours, as established by clear and
21 convincing evidence—

22 “(A) the individual shall be deemed to have
23 predeceased the decedent for the purpose of in-
24 testate succession; and

1 “(B) the heirs of the decedent shall be de-
2 termined in accordance with this section.

3 “(5) PRETERMITTED SPOUSES AND CHIL-
4 DREN.—

5 “(A) SPOUSES.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
7 vided in clause (ii), if the surviving spouse
8 of a testator married the testator after the
9 testator executed the will of the testator,
10 the surviving spouse shall receive the intes-
11 tate share in trust or restricted land that
12 the spouse would have received if the tes-
13 tator had died intestate.

14 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) shall
15 not apply to an interest in trust or re-
16 stricted land in a case in which—

17 “(I) the will of a testator is exe-
18 cuted before the date of enactment of
19 this subparagraph;

20 “(II)(aa) the spouse of a testator
21 is a non-Indian; and

22 “(bb) the testator devised the in-
23 terests in trust or restricted land of
24 the testator to 1 or more Indians;

1 “(III) it appears, based on an ex-
2 amination of the will or other evi-
3 dence, that the will was made in con-
4 templation of the marriage of the tes-
5 tator to the surviving spouse;

6 “(IV) the will expresses the in-
7 tention that the will is to be effective
8 notwithstanding any subsequent mar-
9 riage; or

10 “(V)(aa) the testator provided for
11 the spouse by a transfer of funds or
12 property outside the will; and

13 “(bb) an intent that the transfer
14 be in lieu of a testamentary provision
15 is demonstrated by statements of the
16 testator or through a reasonable infer-
17 ence based on the amount of the
18 transfer or other evidence.

19 “(B) CHILDREN.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If a testator exe-
21 cuted the will of the testator before the
22 birth or adoption of 1 or more children of
23 the testator, and the omission of the chil-
24 dren from the will is a product of inadvert-
25 ence rather than an intentional omission,

1 the children shall share in the intestate in-
2 terests of the decedent in trust or re-
3 stricted land as if the decedent had died
4 intestate.

5 “(ii) ADOPTED HEIRS.—Any person
6 recognized as an heir by virtue of adoption
7 under the Act of July 8, 1940 (25 U.S.C.
8 372a), shall be treated as the child of a de-
9 cedent under this subsection.

10 “(6) DIVORCE.—

11 “(A) SURVIVING SPOUSE.—

12 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An individual who
13 is divorced from a decedent, or whose mar-
14 riage to the decedent has been annulled,
15 shall not be considered to be a surviving
16 spouse unless, by virtue of a subsequent
17 marriage, the individual is married to the
18 decedent at the time of death of the dece-
19 dent.

20 “(ii) SEPARATION.—A decree of sepa-
21 ration that does not dissolve a marriage,
22 and terminate the status of husband and
23 wife, shall not be considered a divorce for
24 the purpose of this subsection.

1 “(iii) NO EFFECT ON ADJUDICA-
2 TIONS.—Nothing in clause (i) prevents an
3 entity responsible for adjudicating an in-
4 terest in trust or restricted land from giv-
5 ing effect to a property right settlement if
6 1 of the parties to the settlement dies be-
7 fore the issuance of a final decree dis-
8 solving the marriage of the parties to the
9 property settlement.

10 “(B) EFFECT OF SUBSEQUENT DIVORCE
11 ON A WILL OR DEVISE.—

12 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If, after executing
13 a will, a testator is divorced or the mar-
14 riage of the testator is annulled, on the ef-
15 fective date of the divorce or annulment,
16 any disposition of interests in trust or re-
17 stricted land made by the will to the
18 former spouse of the testator shall be con-
19 sidered to be revoked unless the will ex-
20 pressly provides otherwise.

21 “(ii) PROPERTY.—Property that is
22 prevented from passing to a former spouse
23 of a decedent under clause (i) shall pass as
24 if the former spouse failed to survive the
25 decedent.

1 “(iii) PROVISIONS OF WILLS.—Any
2 provision of a will that is considered to be
3 revoked solely by operation of this sub-
4 paragraph shall be revived by the remar-
5 riage of a testator to the former spouse of
6 the testator.

7 “(7) NOTICE.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum ex-
9 tent practicable, the Secretary shall notify each
10 owner of trust and restricted land of the provi-
11 sions of this Act.

12 “(B) COMBINED NOTICES.—The notice
13 under subparagraph (A) may, at the discretion
14 of the Secretary, be provided with the notice re-
15 quired under section 207(g).”.

16 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Section 207 of the
17 Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2206) is
18 amended by adding at the end the following:

19 “(h) APPLICABLE FEDERAL LAW.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purpose of subsections
21 (a) and (b), any reference to applicable Federal law
22 includes—

23 “(A) Public Law 91–627 (84 Stat. 1874);

24 “(B) Public Law 92–377 (86 Stat. 530);

25 “(C) Public Law 92–443 (86 Stat. 744);

1 “(D) Public Law 96–274 (94 Stat. 537);

2 and

3 “(E) Public Law 98–513 (98 Stat. 2411).

4 “(2) NO EFFECT ON LAWS.—Nothing in this
5 section amends or otherwise affects any law de-
6 scribed in paragraph (1), or any other Federal law,
7 that provides for the devise and descent of any trust
8 or restricted land located on a specific Indian res-
9 ervation.”.

10 (d) PASSIVE TRUST INTEREST STATUS FOR TRUST
11 OR RESTRICTED LAND.—The Indian Land Consolidation
12 Act is amended by inserting after section 207 (25 U.S.C.
13 2206) the following:

14 **“SEC. 207A. PASSIVE TRUST INTEREST STATUS FOR TRUST
15 OR RESTRICTED LAND.**

16 “(a) PASSIVE TRUST INTEREST STATUS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner of an interest in
18 trust or restricted land may submit to the Secretary
19 an application requesting that the interest be held in
20 passive trust interest status.

21 “(2) AUTHORITY.—An application under para-
22 graph (1) may authorize the Secretary to amend any
23 existing lease or agreement with respect to the inter-
24 est that is the subject of the application.

1 “(b) APPROVAL.—On the approval of an application
2 by the Secretary under subsection (a), an interest in trust
3 or restricted land covered by the application shall be held
4 as a passive trust interest in accordance with this section.

5 “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—Except as provided in this
6 section, an interest in trust or restricted land that is held
7 as a passive trust interest under this section—

8 “(1) shall continue to be covered under any ap-
9 plicable tax-exempt status, and continue to be sub-
10 ject to any restrictions on alienation, until the inter-
11 est is patented in fee;

12 “(2) may, without the approval of the Sec-
13 retary, be—

14 “(A) leased for a period of not to exceed
15 25 years;

16 “(B) mortgaged in accordance with the Act
17 of March 29, 1956 (25 U.S.C. 483a); or

18 “(C) sold or conveyed to—

19 “(i) an Indian;

20 “(ii) the Indian tribe that exercises
21 jurisdiction over the interest; or

22 “(iii) a co-owner of an interest in the
23 parcel of land in which the interest is held,
24 if the co-owner owns a pre-existing trust,

1 restricted interest, or a passive trust inter-
2 est in the parcel; and

3 “(3) may be subject to an ordinance or resolu-
4 tion enacted under subsection (d).

5 “(d) ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR REMOVAL OF
6 STATUS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The governing body of the
8 Indian tribe that exercises jurisdiction over an inter-
9 est in trust or restricted land that is held as a pas-
10 sive trust interest in accordance with this section
11 may enact an ordinance or resolution to permit the
12 owner of the interest to apply to the Secretary for
13 the removal of the trust or restricted status of any
14 portion of the land that is subject to the jurisdiction
15 of the Indian tribe.

16 “(2) REVIEW BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary
17 shall review, and may approve, an ordinance or reso-
18 lution enacted by an Indian tribe in accordance with
19 paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the
20 ordinance or resolution—

21 “(A) is consistent with this Act; and

22 “(B) would not increase fractionated own-
23 ership of Indian land.

24 “(e) REVENUES OR ROYALTIES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graph (2), the Secretary shall not be responsible for
3 the collection of or accounting for any lease revenues
4 or royalties accruing to an interest held as a passive
5 trust interest by any person under this section.

6 “(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
7 apply to an interest described in that paragraph if
8 the Secretary approves an application to take the in-
9 terest into active trust status on behalf of an Indian
10 or an Indian tribe in accordance with regulations
11 promulgated by the Secretary.

12 “(3) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—Nothing in
13 this subsection alters any authority or responsibility
14 of the Secretary with respect to an interest in trust
15 or restricted land held in active trust status (includ-
16 ing an undivided interest included in the same parcel
17 of land as an undivided passive trust interest).

18 “(f) JURISDICTION OVER PASSIVE TRUST INTER-
19 EST.—With respect to an interest in trust or restricted
20 land that is devised or held as a passive trust interest
21 under this section—

22 “(1) an Indian tribe that exercises jurisdiction
23 over such an interest shall continue to exercise juris-
24 diction over the land that is held as a passive trust
25 interest; and

1 “(2) any person holding, leasing, or otherwise
2 using the land shall be considered to consent to the
3 jurisdiction of the Indian tribe with respect to the
4 use of the land (including any effects associated with
5 any use of the land).

6 **“(g) PROBATE OF PASSIVE TRUST INTERESTS.—**

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An interest in trust or re-
8 stricted land that is held as a passive trust interest
9 under this section shall be subject to—

10 “(A) probate by the Secretary in accord-
11 ance with this Act; and

12 “(B) all other laws applicable to the pro-
13 bate of trust or restricted land.

14 “(2) COMMENCEMENT OF PROBATE.—Any in-
15 terested party may file an application to commence
16 the probate of an interest in trust or restricted land
17 held as a passive trust interest.

18 “(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promul-
19 gate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this
20 section.”.

21 **SEC. 4. PARTITION OF INDIAN LAND.**

22 Section 205 of the Indian Land Consolidation Act
23 (25 U.S.C. 2204) is amended by adding at the end the
24 following:

25 **“(c) PARTITION.—**

1 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

2 “(A) ELIGIBLE INDIAN TRIBE.—The term
3 ‘eligible Indian tribe’ means an Indian tribe
4 that—

5 “(i) owns eligible land; and
6 “(ii) consents to partition of the eligi-
7 ble land.

8 “(B) ELIGIBLE LAND.—The term ‘eligible
9 land’ means an undivided parcel of land that—
10 “(i) is located within the reservation
11 of an Indian tribe; or
12 “(ii) is otherwise under the jurisdic-
13 tion of an Indian tribe.

14 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any
15 other provision of law, in accordance with this sub-
16 section and subject to paragraphs (3), (4), and
17 (5)—

18 “(A) an eligible Indian tribe may apply to
19 the Secretary for the partition of a parcel of eli-
20 gible land; and

21 “(B) the Secretary may commence a proc-
22 ess for partitioning the eligible land under this
23 subsection if—

24 “(i) the eligible Indian tribe meets the
25 applicable ownership requirement under

1 subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (3);

2 or

3 “(ii) the Secretary determines that it
4 is reasonable to believe that the partition
5 of the eligible land owned would be in ac-
6 cordance with paragraph (3)(C).

7 “(3) TRIBAL OWNERSHIP.—A parcel of eligible
8 land may be partitioned under this subsection if,
9 with respect to the eligible Indian tribe involved—

10 “(A) the eligible Indian tribe owns 50 per-
11 cent or more of the undivided interest in the
12 parcel;

13 “(B) the eligible Indian tribe is the owner
14 of the largest quantity of undivided interest in
15 the parcel; or

16 “(C) the owners of undivided interests
17 equal to at least 50 percent of the undivided in-
18 terest in the parcel (including any undivided in-
19 terest owned by the eligible Indian tribe) con-
20 sent or do not object to the partition.

21 “(4) TRIBAL CONSENT.—A parcel of land that
22 is located within the reservation of an Indian tribe
23 or otherwise under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe
24 shall be partitioned under this subsection only if the
25 Indian tribe does not object to the partition.

1 “(5) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall not
2 apply to any parcel of land that is the bona fide resi-
3 dence of any person unless the person consents to
4 the partition in writing.

5 “(6) PARTITION IN KIND.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
7 commence the partition process described in
8 subparagraph (B) if—

9 “(i) an eligible Indian tribe applies to
10 partition eligible land under this para-
11 graph; and

12 “(ii)(I) the Secretary determines that
13 the eligible Indian tribe meets the applica-
14 ble ownership requirements of subpara-
15 graph (A) or (B) of paragraph (3); or

16 “(II) the Secretary determines that it
17 is reasonable to believe that the partition
18 would be in accordance with paragraph
19 (3)(C).

20 “(B) PARTITION PROCESS.—In carrying
21 out any partition under this paragraph, the
22 Secretary shall—

23 “(i) provide, to each owner of any un-
24 divided interest in eligible land to be parti-
25 tioned, through publication or other appro-

7 “(iii) review—

1 “(D) PARTITION WITH CONSENT OF ELIGI-
2 BLE INDIAN TRIBE.—If the Secretary deter-
3 mines that a parcel of eligible land may be par-
4 titioned in a manner that is fair and equitable
5 to the owners of the eligible land, and the appli-
6 cable eligible Indian tribe meets the applicable
7 ownership requirements under subparagraph
8 (A) or (B) of paragraph (3), the Secretary
9 shall—

- 10 “(i) approve a plan of partition;
11 “(ii) provide notice to the owners of
12 the eligible land of the determination of
13 the Secretary;
14 “(iii) make a copy of the plan of par-
15 tition available to each owner of the eligi-
16 ble land; and
17 “(iv) inform each owner of the right
18 to appeal the determination of the Sec-
19 retary to partition the eligible land in ac-
20 cordance with the plan.

21 “(E) PARTITION WITH CONSENT; IMPLIED
22 CONSENT.—If the Secretary determines that a
23 parcel of eligible land may be partitioned in a
24 manner that is fair and equitable to the owners
25 of the eligible land, but the eligible Indian tribe

1 involved does not meet the applicable ownership
2 requirements under subparagraph (A) or (B) of
3 paragraph (3), the Secretary shall—

4 “(i)(I) make a plan of partition avail-
5 able to the owners of the parcel; and

6 “(II) inform the owners that the eligi-
7 ble land will be partitioned in accordance
8 with the plan if the owners of 50 percent
9 or more of undivided ownership interest in
10 the eligible land—

11 “(aa) consent to the partition; or

12 “(bb) do not object to the parti-
13 tion by such date as may be estab-
14 lished by the Secretary; and

15 “(ii)(I) if the owners of 50 percent or
16 more of undivided ownership interest in
17 the eligible land consent to the partition or
18 do not object by a date established by the
19 Secretary under clause (i)(II)(bb), inform
20 the owners of the eligible land that—

21 “(aa) the plan for partition is
22 final; and

23 “(bb) the owners have the right
24 to appeal the determination of the

3 “(II) if the owners of 50 percent or
4 more of the undivided ownership interest
5 in the eligible land object to the partition,
6 inform the eligible Indian tribe of the ob-
7 jection.

8 “(F) SUCCESSIVE PARTITION PLANS.—In
9 carrying out subparagraph (E) in accordance
10 with paragraph (3)(C), the Secretary may, in
11 accordance with subparagraph (E)—

“(ii) make those plans available to the owners of the eligible land to be partitioned.

17 “(G) PLAN OF PARTITION.—A plan of par-
18 tition approved by the Secretary in accordance
19 with subparagraph (D) or (E)—

“(i) may determine that 1 or more of
the undivided interests in a parcel of eligible
land are not susceptible to a partition
in kind;

1 “(I) 1 or more of the owners of
2 undivided interests in the eligible
3 land; or

4 “(II) the Secretary in accordance
5 with section 213; and

6 “(iii) shall provide that the sale of any
7 undivided interest referred to in clause (ii)
8 shall be for not less than the fair market
9 value of the interest.

10 “(7) PARTITION BY SALE.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
12 commence the partition process described in
13 subparagraph (B) if—

14 “(i) an eligible Indian tribe applies to
15 partition a parcel of eligible land under
16 this subsection; and

17 “(ii)(I) the Secretary determines that
18 the Indian tribe meets the applicable own-
19 ership requirements of subparagraph (A)
20 or (B) of paragraph (3); or

21 “(II) the Secretary determines that it
22 is reasonable to believe that the partition
23 would be in accordance with paragraph
24 (3)(C).

1 “(B) PARTITION PROCESS.—In carrying
2 out any partition of eligible land under this
3 paragraph, the Secretary—

4 “(i) shall conduct a preliminary ap-
5 praisal of the eligible land;

6 “(ii) shall provide to the owners of the
7 eligible land, through publication or other
8 appropriate means—

9 “(I) notice of the application of
10 the eligible Indian tribe to partition
11 the eligible land; and

12 “(II) access to the preliminary
13 appraisal conducted in accordance
14 with clause (i);

15 “(iii) shall inform each owner of the
16 eligible land of the right to submit to the
17 Secretary comments relating to the pre-
18 liminary appraisal;

19 “(iv) may, based on comments re-
20 ceived under clause (iii), modify the pre-
21 liminary appraisal or provide for the con-
22 duct of a new appraisal; and

23 “(v) shall—

24 “(I) issue a final appraisal for
25 the eligible land;

1 “(II) provide to the owners of the
2 eligible land and the appropriate In-
3 dian tribes access to the final ap-
4 praisal; and

5 “(III) inform the Indian tribes of
6 the right to appeal the final appraisal.

7 “(C) PURCHASE BY ELIGIBLE INDIAN
8 TRIBE.—If an eligible Indian tribe enters into
9 an agreement with the Secretary to pay fair
10 market value for eligible land partitioned under
11 this subsection, as determined by the final ap-
12 praisal of the eligible land issued under sub-
13 paragraph (B)(v)(I) (including any appraisal
14 issued by the Secretary after an appeal by the
15 Indian tribe under subparagraph (B)(v)(III)),
16 and the eligible Indian tribe meets the applica-
17 ble ownership requirements of subparagraph
18 (A) or (B) of paragraph (3), the Secretary
19 shall—

20 “(i) provide to each owner of the eligi-
21 ble land notice of the agreement; and

22 “(ii) inform the owners of the right to
23 appeal the decision of the Secretary to
24 enter into the agreement (including the
25 right to appeal any final appraisal of the

1 parcel referred to in subparagraph
2 (B)(v)(III)).

3 “(D) PARTITION WITH CONSENT; IMPLIED
4 CONSENT.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If an eligible In-
6 dian tribe agrees to pay fair market value
7 for eligible land partitioned under this sub-
8 section, as determined by the final ap-
9 praisal of the eligible land issued under
10 subparagraph (B)(v)(I) (including any ap-
11 praisal issued by the Secretary after an ap-
12 peal by the Indian tribe under subpara-
13 graph (B)(v)(III)), but does not meet the
14 applicable ownership requirements of sub-
15 paragraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (3), the
16 Secretary shall—

17 “(I) provide to each owner of the
18 undivided interest in the eligible land
19 notice that the Indian tribe did not
20 meet the requirements; and

21 “(II) inform the owners that the
22 eligible land will be partitioned by sale
23 unless the partition is opposed by the
24 owners of 50 percent or more of the

1 undivided ownership interest in the el-
2 igible land.

3 “(ii) FAILURE TO OBJECT TO PARTI-
4 TION.—If the owners of 50 percent or
5 more of undivided ownership interest in or
6 to a parcel of eligible land consent to the
7 partition of the eligible land, or do not ob-
8 ject to the partition by such date as may
9 be established by the Secretary, the Sec-
10 retary shall inform the owners of the eligi-
11 ble land of the right to appeal the deter-
12 mination of the Secretary to partition the
13 eligible land (including the results of the
14 final appraisal issued under subparagraph
15 (B)(v)(I)).

16 “(iii) OBJECTION TO PARTITION.—If
17 the owners of 50 percent or more of the
18 undivided ownership interest in a parcel of
19 eligible land object to the partition of the
20 eligible land—

21 “(I) the Secretary shall notify the
22 eligible Indian tribe of the objection;
23 and

24 “(II) the eligible Indian tribe and
25 the Secretary may agree to increase

1 the amount offered to purchase the
2 undivided ownership interests in the
3 eligible land.

4 “(8) ENFORCEMENT.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If, with respect to a
6 parcel of eligible land, a partition in kind is ap-
7 proved under subparagraph (D) or (E) of para-
8 graph (6), or a partition by sale is approved
9 under paragraph (7)(C), and the owner of an
10 interest in or to the eligible land fails to convey
11 the interest to the Indian tribe, the Indian tribe
12 or the United States may—

13 “(i) bring a civil action in the United
14 States district court for the district in
15 which the eligible land is located; and

16 “(ii) request the court to issue an ap-
17 propriate order for the partition in kind, or
18 partition by sale to the Indian tribe, of the
19 eligible land.

20 “(B) FEDERAL ROLE.—With respect to
21 any civil action brought under subparagraph
22 (A)—

23 “(i) the United States—

24 “(I) shall receive notice of the
25 civil action; and

3 “(ii) the civil action shall not be dis-
4 missed, and no relief requested shall be de-
5 nied, on the ground that the civil action is
6 against the United States or that the
7 United States is an indispensable party.”.

8 SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS.

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Indian Land Consolidation
10 Act (25 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended.

16 (2) in section 206 (25 U.S.C. 2205)—

17 (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-
18 graph (3) and inserting the following:

19 “(3) TRIBAL PROBATE CODES.—Except as pro-
20 vided in any applicable Federal law, the Secretary
21 shall not approve a tribal probate code, or an
22 amendment to such a code, that prevents the devise
23 of an interest in trust or restricted land to—

“(A) an Indian lineal descendant of the original allottee; or

1 “(B) an Indian who is not a member of the
2 Indian tribe that exercises jurisdiction over
3 such an interest, unless the code provides for—

4 “(i) the renouncing of interests to eli-
5 gible devisees in accordance with the code;

6 “(ii) the opportunity for a devisee who
7 is the spouse or lineal descendant of a tes-
8 tator to reserve a life estate; and

9 “(iii) payment of fair market value in
10 the manner prescribed under subsection
11 (c)(2).”; and

12 (B) in subsection (c)—

13 (i) in paragraph (1)—

14 (I) by striking the paragraph
15 heading and inserting the following:

16 “(1) AUTHORITY.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.”;

18 (II) in the first sentence of sub-
19 paragraph (A) (as designated by
20 clause (i)), by striking “section
21 207(a)(6)(A) of this title” and insert-
22 ing “section 207(a)(2)(A)(ii),
23 207(a)(2)(C), or 207(a)(3)”;

24 (III) by striking the last sentence
25 and inserting the following:

1 “(B) TRANSFER.—The Secretary shall
2 transfer payments received under subparagraph
3 (A) to any person or persons who would have
4 received an interest in land if the interest had
5 not been acquired by the Indian tribe in accord-
6 ance with this paragraph.”; and

7 (ii) in paragraph (2)—

8 (I) in subparagraph (A)—
9 (aa) by striking the subpara-
10 graph heading and all that fol-
11 lows through “Paragraph (1)
12 shall apply” and inserting the
13 following:

14 “(A) NONAPPLICABILITY TO CERTAIN IN-
15 TERESTS.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1)
17 shall not apply”;

18 (bb) in clause (i) (as des-
19 ignated by item (a)), by striking
20 “if, while” and inserting the fol-
21 lowing: “if—

22 “(I) while”;

23 (cc) by striking the period at
24 the end and inserting “; or”; and

1 (dd) by adding at the end
2 the following:

6 “(bb) the devisee agrees that the
7 Indian tribe that exercises jurisdiction
8 over the land will have the oppor-
9 tunity to acquire the interest for fair
0 market value if the interest is offered
1 for sale to an entity that is not a
2 member of the family of the owner of
3 the land

“(ii) RECORDING OF INTEREST.—On request by an Indian tribe described in clause (i)(II)(bb), a restriction relating to the acquisition by the Indian tribe of an interest in a family farm involved shall be recorded as part of the deed relating to the interest involved.

21 “(iii) MORTGAGE AND FORE-
22 CLOSURE.—Nothing in clause (i)(II) pre-
23 vents or limits the ability of an owner of
24 land to which that clause applies to mort-
25 gage the land or limit the right of the enti-

1 ty holding such a mortgage to foreclose or
2 otherwise enforce such a mortgage agree-
3 ment in accordance with applicable law.

4 “(iv) DEFINITION OF MEMBER OF
5 THE FAMILY.—In this paragraph, the term
6 ‘member of the family’, with respect to a
7 decedent or landowner, means—

8 “(I) a lineal descendant of a de-
9 cedent or landowner;

10 “(II) a lineal descendant of the
11 grandparent of a decedent or land-
12 owner;

13 “(III) the spouse of a descendant
14 or landowner described in subclause
15 (I) or (II); and

16 “(IV) the spouse of a decedent or
17 landowner.”; and

18 (II) in subparagraph (B), by
19 striking “subparagraph (A)” and all
20 that follows through “207(a)(6)(B) of
21 this title” and inserting “paragraph
22 (1)”;

23 (3) in section 207 (25 U.S.C. 2206)—

24 (A) in subsection (c)—

1 (i) by redesignating paragraph (3) as
2 paragraph (4); and

3 (ii) by inserting after paragraph (2)
4 the following:

5 “(3) ALIENATION OF JOINT TENANCY INTER-
6 ESTS.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any
8 interest held in joint tenancy in accordance with
9 this subsection—

10 “(i) nothing in this subsection alters
11 the ability of an owner of such an interest
12 to convey a life estate in the undivided
13 joint tenancy interest of the owner; and

14 “(ii) only the last remaining owner of
15 such an interest may devise or convey
16 more than a life estate in the interest.

17 “(B) APPLICATION OF PROVISION.—This
18 paragraph shall not apply—

19 “(i) to any conveyance, sale, or trans-
20 fer that is part of an agreement referred to
21 in subsection (e); or

22 “(ii) to a co-owner of a joint tenancy
23 interest.”; and

4 (4) in section 213 (25 U.S.C. 2212)—

“(4) shall minimize the administrative costs associated with the land acquisition program through the use of policies and procedures designed to accommodate the voluntary sale of interests under the pilot program under this section, notwithstanding the existence of any otherwise applicable policy, procedure, or regulation, through the elimination of duplicate—

19 “(A) conveyance documents;

21 “(C) transactions.”; and

(C) in subsection (c)—

23 (i) in paragraph (1)—

1 all that follows and inserting the fol-
2 lowing: “landowner—
3 “(i) on payment by the Indian land-
4 owner of the amount paid for the interest
5 by the Secretary; or
6 “(ii) if—
7 “(I) the Indian referred to in this
8 subparagraph provides assurances
9 that the purchase price will be paid by
10 pledging revenue from any source, in-
11 cluding trust resources; and
12 “(II) the Secretary determines
13 that the purchase price will be paid in
14 a timely and efficient manner.”; and
15 (II) in subparagraph (B), by in-
16 serting before the period at the end
17 the following: “unless the interest is
18 subject to a foreclosure of a mortgage
19 in accordance with the Act of March
20 29, 1956 (25 U.S.C. 483a)”;
21 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “10
22 percent of more of the undivided interests”
23 and inserting “an undivided interest”;
24 (5) in section 214 (25 U.S.C. 2213), by striking
25 subsection (b) and inserting the following:

1 “(b) APPLICATION OF REVENUE FROM ACQUIRED
2 INTERESTS TO LAND CONSOLIDATION PILOT PRO-
3 GRAM.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall have a
5 lien on any revenue accruing to an interest described
6 in subsection (a) until the Secretary provides for the
7 removal of the lien under paragraph (3) or (4).

8 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Until the Secretary
10 removes a lien from an interest in land under
11 paragraph (1)—

12 “(i) any lease, resource sale contract,
13 right-of-way, or other document evidencing
14 a transaction affecting the interest shall
15 contain a clause providing that all revenue
16 derived from the interest shall be paid to
17 the Secretary; and

18 “(ii) any revenue derived from any in-
19 terest acquired by the Secretary in accord-
20 ance with section 213 shall be deposited in
21 the fund created under section 216.

22 “(B) APPROVAL OF TRANSACTIONS.—Not-
23 withstanding section 16 of the Act of June 18,
24 1934 (commonly known as the ‘Indian Reorga-
25 nization Act’) (25 U.S.C. 476), or any other

1 provision of law, until the Secretary removes a
2 lien from an interest in land under paragraph
3 (1), the Secretary may approve a transaction
4 covered under this section on behalf of an In-
5 dian tribe.

6 “(3) REMOVAL OF LIEN AFTER FINDINGS.—
7 The Secretary may remove a lien referred to in
8 paragraph (1) if the Secretary makes a finding
9 that—

10 “(A) the costs of administering the interest
11 from which revenue accrues under the lien will
12 equal or exceed the projected revenues for the
13 parcel of land involved;

14 “(B) in the discretion of the Secretary, it
15 will take an unreasonable period of time for the
16 parcel of land to generate revenue that equals
17 the purchase price paid for the interest; or

18 “(C) a subsequent decrease in the value of
19 land or commodities associated with the parcel
20 of land make it likely that the interest will be
21 unable to generate revenue that equals the pur-
22 chase price paid for the interest in a reasonable
23 time.

24 “(4) OTHER REMOVAL OF LIEN.—In accord-
25 ance with regulations to be promulgated by the Sec-

1 retary, and in consultation with tribal governments
2 and other entities described in section 213(b)(3), the
3 Secretary shall periodically remove liens referred to
4 in paragraph (1) from interests in land acquired by
5 the Secretary.”;

6 (6) in section 216 (25 U.S.C. 2215)—

7 (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-
8 graph (2) and inserting the following:

9 “(2) collect all revenues received from the lease,
10 permit, or sale of resources from interests acquired
11 under section 213 or paid by Indian landowners
12 under section 213.”; and

13 (B) in subsection (b)—

14 (i) in paragraph (1)—

15 (I) in the matter preceding sub-
16 paragraph (A), by striking “Subject
17 to paragraph (2), all” and inserting
18 “All”;

19 (II) in subparagraph (A), by
20 striking “and” at the end;

21 (III) in subparagraph (B), by
22 striking the period at the end and in-
23 serting “; and”; and

24 (IV) by adding at the end the fol-
25 lowing:

1 “(C) be used to acquire undivided interests
2 on the reservation from which the income was
3 derived.”; and

4 (ii) by striking paragraph (2) and in-
5 serting the following:

6 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may use
7 the revenue deposited in the Acquisition Fund under
8 paragraph (1) to acquire some or all of the undivided
9 interests in any parcels of land in accordance
10 with section 205.”;

11 (7) in section 217 (25 U.S.C. 2216)—

17 (B) by striking subsection (f) and inserting
18 the following:

19 "(f) PURCHASE OF LAND BY INDIAN TRIBE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), before the Secretary approves an application to terminate the trust status or remove the restrictions on alienation from a parcel of trust or restricted land, the Indian tribe that exercises jurisdiction over the parcel shall have the opportunity—

1 “(A) to match any offer contained in the
2 application; or

3 “(B) in a case in which there is no pur-
4 chase price offered, to acquire the interest in
5 the parcel by paying the fair market value of
6 the interest.

7 “(2) EXCEPTION FOR FAMILY FARMS.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) shall
9 not apply to a parcel of trust or restricted land
10 that is part of a family farm that is conveyed
11 to a member of the family of a landowner (as
12 defined in section 206(c)(2)(A)(iv)) if—

13 “(i) the interest is offered for sale to
14 an entity that is not a member of the fam-
15 ily of the landowner; and

16 “(ii) the Indian tribe that exercises
17 jurisdiction over the land is afforded the
18 opportunity to purchase the interest.

19 “(B) APPLICABILITY.—Section
20 206(c)(2)(A) shall apply with respect to the re-
21 cording and mortgaging of any trust or re-
22 stricted land referred to in subparagraph (A).”;
23 and

4 (b) DEFINITION.—

9 "(2) INDIAN.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘Indian’
11 means—

12 “(i) any person that is a member of
13 any Indian tribe or is eligible to become a
14 member of any Indian tribe;

19 “(iii) with respect to the ownership,
20 devise, or descent of trust or restricted
21 land in the State of California, any person
22 that meets the definition of ‘Indians of
23 California’ contained in the first section of
24 the Act of May 18, 1928 (25 U.S.C. 651),
25 until otherwise provided by Congress in ac-

1 cordance with section 809(b) of the Indian
2 Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C.
3 1679(b)).

4 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘Indian’
5 does not include any person excluded from a
6 definition described in subparagraph (A)(ii) by
7 a regulation promulgated by the Secretary in a
8 case in which the Secretary determines that the
9 definition is not consistent with the purposes of
10 this Act, unless the definition described in sub-
11 paragraph (A)(ii) is contained in a law relating
12 to—

13 “(i) agriculture;
14 “(ii) cultural resources;
15 “(iii) economic development;
16 “(iv) grazing;
17 “(v) housing;
18 “(vi) Indian schools;
19 “(vii) natural resources;
20 “(viii) any other program with bene-
21 fits intended to run to Indian landowners;
22 or
23 “(ix) any land-related program that
24 takes effect after the date of enactment of
25 this subparagraph.”.

1 (2) APPLICABILITY.—Any exclusion referred to
2 in the amendment made by paragraph (1) shall
3 apply only to a decedent who dies after the date on
4 which the Secretary of the Interior promulgates a
5 regulation providing for the exclusion.

6 (c) MORTGAGES AND DEEDS OF TRUST.—The Act
7 of March 29, 1956 (25 U.S.C. 483a), is amended in the
8 first sentence of subsection (a) by inserting after “any
9 land” the following: “(including land owned by any person
10 in passive trust status in accordance with section 207A
11 of the Indian Land Consolidation Act)”.

12 (d) ISSUANCE OF PATENTS.—Section 5 of the Act of
13 February 8, 1887 (25 U.S.C. 348), is amended by striking
14 the second proviso and inserting the following: “*Provided,*
15 That the rules of intestate succession under the Indian
16 Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) (includ-
17 ing a tribal probate code approved under that Act or regu-
18 lations promulgated under that Act) shall apply to that
19 land for which patents have been executed and delivered:”.

20 (e) TRANSFERS OF RESTRICTED INDIAN LAND.—
21 Section 4 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 464),
22 is amended in the first proviso by striking “, in accordance
23 with” and all that follows through the colon and inserting
24 “in accordance with the Indian Land Consolidation Act
25 (25 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) (including a tribal probate code

1 approved under that Act or regulations promulgated under
2 that Act):”.

3 **SEC. 6. INHERITANCE OF CERTAIN TRUST OR RESTRICTED**

4 **LAND.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of Public Law 98–513
6 (98 Stat. 2413) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 5. INHERITANCE OF CERTAIN TRUST OR RESTRICTED**

8 **LAND.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
10 vision of this Act—

11 “(1) the owner of an interest in trust or re-
12 stricted land within the reservation may not devise
13 an interest (including a life estate under section 4)
14 in the land that is less than 2.5 acres to more than
15 1 tribal member unless each tribal member already
16 holds an interest in that land; and

17 “(2) any interest in trust or restricted land
18 within the reservation that is less than 2.5 acres
19 that would otherwise pass by intestate succession
20 (including a life estate in the land under section 4),
21 or that is devised to more than 1 tribal member that
22 is not described in paragraph (1), shall revert to the
23 Indian tribe, to be held in the name of the United
24 States in trust for the Indian tribe.

25 “(b) NOTICE.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of enactment of the Indian Probate
3 Reform Act of 2003, the Secretary shall provide no-
4 tice to owners of trust or restricted land within the
5 Lake Traverse Reservation of the provisions of this
6 section by—

7 “(A) direct mail;

8 “(B) publication in the Federal Register;

9 or

10 “(C) publication in local newspapers.

11 “(2) CERTIFICATION.—After providing notice
12 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

13 “(A) certify that the requirements of this
14 subsection have been met; and

15 “(B) shall publish notice of that certifi-
16 cation in the Federal Register.”.

17 (b) APPLICABILITY.—This section and the amend-
18 ment made by this section shall not apply with respect
19 to the estate of any person who dies before the date that
20 is 1 year after the date on which the Secretary makes the
21 required certification under section 5(b) of Public Law
22 98-513 (98 Stat. 2413) (as amended by subsection (a)).

1 SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

2 The amendments made by this Act shall not apply
3 to the estate of an individual who dies before the later
4 of—

5 (1) the date that is 1 year after the date of en-
6 actment of this Act; or

7 (2) the date specified in section 207(g)(5) of
8 the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C.
9 2206(g)(5)).

○