

disbursement from the trust estate of a deceased Indian if—

- (1) the total amount of unauthorized disbursements from such trust estate was less than \$50; or
- (2) the payment (not including interest) would be less than \$10.

(Pub. L. 98-500, §3, Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2317; Pub. L. 100-581, title II, §201, Nov. 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2939.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1988—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-581 amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: “No payment shall be made under subsection (a) with respect to any unauthorized disbursement from the trust estate of a deceased Indian if the total amount of unauthorized disbursement from such trust estate was less than \$50.”

§ 2303. Notice

(a) Publication; list of trust estates; unauthorized disbursements; Federal Register

Within one hundred and eighty days after October 19, 1984, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a list of all trust estates from which unauthorized disbursements are known to have been made, including the amount of the unauthorized disbursement made from each such trust estate.

(b) Secretary to provide information to affected tribes, bands, or groups

Within thirty days after the publication of this list, the Secretary shall provide a copy of this chapter and a copy of the Federal Register containing this list, or such parts as may be pertinent, to each Indian tribe, band, or group the rights of whose members may be affected by this chapter.

(c) Submission of additional unauthorized disbursement claims

Any tribe, band or group of Indians, or any individual Indian shall have one hundred and eighty days after the date of the publication in the Federal Register of the list provided for in subsection (b) of this section to submit to the Secretary any additional unauthorized disbursement claims not contained on the list.

(d) Publication of additional unauthorized disbursement claims

Not more than thirty days after the expiration of the one hundred and eighty day period provided for in subsection (c) of this section, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a list containing the additional unauthorized disbursement claims submitted during such period.

(Pub. L. 98-500, §4, Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2317.)

§ 2304. Identification of right to payment and expeditious claim payment

(a) Search of records

The Secretary shall conduct a search of the records of the Department of the Interior to identify individuals who are entitled to any portion of the unauthorized disbursements which

were made and to ascertain the amount of such unauthorized disbursements to which each of such individuals is entitled.

(b) Payment without filing of claim

In any case in which the Secretary ascertains the name and location of any individual who is entitled to any portion of an unauthorized disbursement and determines the amount of such unauthorized disbursement to which such individual is entitled, the Secretary shall pay such amount, including interest thereon as provided in section 2302 of this title, to such individual immediately without requiring such individual to file a formal claim for payment.

(c) Notification

The Secretary shall use the best available means of notifying each individual who is identified in the search conducted under subsection (a) of the right of such individual to receive payment under this chapter. The means of notification available to the Secretary shall include—

- (1) notice provided directly to such individual;
- (2) notification of the next of kin of such individual;
- (3) notification of the chairman or chief executive officer of the tribe of which such individual is a member or of which the deceased Indian was a member; and
- (4) publication of notice in newspapers of general circulation in the appropriate area.

(Pub. L. 98-500, §5, Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2318.)

§ 2305. Discharge and barring of claims

(a) Payment and acceptance

The payment and acceptance of any claim, after its determination in accordance with this chapter, shall be a full discharge to the United States or any State or political subdivision thereof of all claims and demands touching any of the matters involved in the controversy.

(b) Claims filed prior to October 19, 1984

The provisions of this chapter shall not affect claims arising from any unauthorized disbursement which were filed in any court of competent jurisdiction prior to October 19, 1984.

(Pub. L. 98-500, §6, Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2318.)

§ 2306. Authorization of appropriations

(a) There are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter \$2,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 1986 and 1987, and such sums as may be necessary for any subsequent fiscal year. The amounts appropriated under the authority of this subsection shall remain available without fiscal year limitation for purposes of carrying out the provisions of this chapter until all claims filed under this chapter have been resolved.

(b) Funds necessary to pay the expenses of administering this chapter shall be appropriated and expended under the authority of section 13 of this title.

(Pub. L. 98-500, §7, Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2318.)

§ 2307. Treatment of funds

Funds distributed under the provisions of this chapter shall not be considered as income or re-

sources nor otherwise utilized as the basis for denying or reducing the financial assistance or other benefits to which such household or member would otherwise be entitled under the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.] or, except for per capita shares in excess of \$2,000, any Federal or federally assisted program.

(Pub. L. 98-500, § 8, Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2319.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Social Security Act, referred to in text, is act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, 49 Stat. 620, which is classified generally to chapter 7 (§301 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1305 of Title 42 and Tables.

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SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 2401. Congressional findings

The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) the Federal Government has a historical relationship and unique legal and moral responsibility to Indian tribes and their members,

(2) included in this responsibility is the treaty, statutory, and historical obligation to assist the Indian tribes in meeting the health and social needs of their members,

(3) alcoholism and alcohol and substance abuse is the most severe health and social problem facing Indian tribes and people today and nothing is more costly to Indian people than the consequences of alcohol and substance abuse measured in physical, mental, social, and economic terms,

(4) alcohol and substance abuse is the leading generic risk factor among Indians, and Indians die from alcoholism at over 4 times the age-adjusted rates for the United States population and alcohol and substance misuse results in a rate of years of potential life lost nearly 5 times that of the United States,

(5) 4 of the top 10 causes of death among Indians are alcohol and drug related injuries (18 percent of all deaths), chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (5 percent), suicide (3 percent), and homicide (3 percent),

(6) primarily because deaths from unintentional injuries and violence occur disproportionately among young people, the age-specific death rate for Indians is approximately double the United States rate for the 15 to 45 age group,

(7) Indians between the ages of 15 and 24 years of age are more than 2 times as likely to commit suicide as the general population and approximately 80 percent of those suicides are alcohol-related,

(8) Indians between the ages of 15 and 24 years of age are twice as likely as the general population to die in automobile accidents, 75 percent of which are alcohol-related,

(9) the Indian Health Service, which is charged with treatment and rehabilitation efforts, has directed only 1 percent of its budget for alcohol and substance abuse problems,

(10) the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which has responsibility for programs in education, social services, law enforcement, and other areas, has assumed little responsibility for coordinating its various efforts to focus on the epidemic of alcohol and substance abuse among Indian people,

(11) this lack of emphasis and priority continues despite the fact that Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service officials publicly acknowledge that alcohol and substance abuse among Indians is the most serious health and social problem facing the Indian people, and

(12) the Indian tribes have the primary responsibility for protecting and ensuring the well-being of their members and the resources made available under this chapter will assist Indian tribes in meeting that responsibility.

(Pub. L. 99-570, title IV, §4202, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-137.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in par. (12), was in the original "this subtitle", meaning subtitle C of title IV of Pub. L. 99-570, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-137, known as the Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention