

**§ 1. Words denoting number, gender, and so forth**

In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, unless the context indicates otherwise—

words importing the singular include and apply to several persons, parties, or things;

words importing the plural include the singular;

words importing the masculine gender include the feminine as well;

words used in the present tense include the future as well as the present;

the words “insane” and “insane person” and “lunatic” shall include every idiot, lunatic, insane person, and person non compos mentis;

the words “person” and “whoever” include corporations, companies, associations, firms, partnerships, societies, and joint stock companies, as well as individuals;

“officer” includes any person authorized by law to perform the duties of the office;

“signature” or “subscription” includes a mark when the person making the same intended it as such;

“oath” includes affirmation, and “sworn” includes affirmed;

“writing” includes printing and typewriting and reproductions of visual symbols by photographing, multigraphing, mimeographing, manifolding, or otherwise.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633; June 25, 1948, ch. 645, § 6, 62 Stat. 859; Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 655, § 1, 65 Stat. 710.)

## AMENDMENTS

1951—Act Oct. 31, 1951, substituted, in fourth clause after opening clause, “used” for “use”.

1948—Act June 25, 1948, included “tense”, “whoever”, “signature”, “subscription”, “writing” and a broader definition of “person”.

## SHORT TITLE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107-207, § 1, Aug. 5, 2002, 116 Stat. 926, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 8 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Born-Alive Infants Protection Act of 2002’.”

## SHORT TITLE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 104-199, § 1, Sept. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2419, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 7 of this title and section 1738C of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure] may be cited as the ‘Defense of Marriage Act’.”

## REFERENCES IN PUB. L. 108-7

Pub. L. 108-7, § 3, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 12, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this joint resolution [Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

## CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

Section 48 of Pub. L. 86-70, June 25, 1959, 73 Stat. 154, provided that: “Whenever the phrase ‘continental United States’ is used in any law of the United States enacted after the date of enactment of this Act [June 25, 1959], it shall mean the 49 States on the North American Continent and the District of Columbia, unless otherwise expressly provided.”

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in title 7 section 241; title 10 section 101; title 16 section 2402; title 20 section 5607b;

title 28 section 3701; title 30 sections 1511, 1531; title 31 section 5312; title 32 section 101; title 37 section 101; title 39 section 5215; title 42 section 14902; title 49 sections 5102, 10102, 13102, 40102, 60101.

**§ 2. “County” as including “parish”, and so forth**

The word “county” includes a parish, or any other equivalent subdivision of a State or Territory of the United States.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633.)

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in title 10 section 101; title 12 sections 3702, 3752; title 32 section 101; title 37 section 101.

**§ 3. “Vessel” as including all means of water transportation**

The word “vessel” includes every description of watercraft or other artificial contrivance used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on water.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633.)

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in title 10 section 101; title 32 section 101; title 37 section 101; title 46 section 2101; title 46 App. section 1241o.

**§ 4. “Vehicle” as including all means of land transportation**

The word “vehicle” includes every description of carriage or other artificial contrivance used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on land.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633.)

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in title 10 section 101; title 32 section 101; title 37 section 101.

**§ 5. “Company” or “association” as including successors and assigns**

The word “company” or “association”, when used in reference to a corporation, shall be deemed to embrace the words “successors and assigns of such company or association”, in like manner as if these last-named words, or words of similar import, were expressed.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 633.)

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in title 10 section 101; title 32 section 101; title 37 section 101.

**§ 6. Limitation of term “products of American fisheries”**

Wherever, in the statutes of the United States or in the rulings, regulations, or interpretations of various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States there appears or may appear the term “products of American fisheries” said term shall not include fresh or frozen fish fillets, fresh or frozen fish steaks, or fresh or frozen slices of fish substantially free of bone (including any of the foregoing divided into sections), produced in a foreign country or its territorial waters, in whole or in part with the use of the labor of persons who are not residents of the United States.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 634.)

### § 7. Definition of “marriage” and “spouse”

In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the word “marriage” means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word “spouse” refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife.

(Added Pub. L. 104-199, §3(a), Sept. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2419.)

### § 8. “Person”, “human being”, “child”, and “individual” as including born-alive infant

(a) In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the words “person”, “human being”, “child”, and “individual”, shall include every infant member of the species homo sapiens who is born alive at any stage of development.

(b) As used in this section, the term “born alive”, with respect to a member of the species homo sapiens, means the complete expulsion or extraction from his or her mother of that member, at any stage of development, who after such expulsion or extraction breathes or has a beating heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, regardless of whether the umbilical cord has been cut, and regardless of whether the expulsion or extraction occurs as a result of natural or induced labor, cesarean section, or induced abortion.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affirm, deny, expand, or contract any legal status or legal right applicable to any member of the species homo sapiens at any point prior to being “born alive” as defined in this section.

(Added Pub. L. 107-207, §2(a), Aug. 5, 2002, 116 Stat. 926.)

## CHAPTER 2—ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS; FORMALITIES OF ENACTMENT; REPEALS; SEALING OF INSTRUMENTS

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#### AMENDMENTS

1972—Pub. L. 92-403, §2, Aug. 22, 1972, 86 Stat. 619, added item 112b.

1966—Pub. L. 89-497, §2, July 8, 1966, 80 Stat. 271, inserted “slip laws; Treaties and Other International Acts Series;” in item 113.

1951—Act Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 655, §2(a), 65 Stat. 710, added items 106a and 106b.

1950—Act Sept. 23, 1950, ch. 1001, §3, 64 Stat. 980, added item 112a.

### § 101. Enacting clause

The enacting clause of all Acts of Congress shall be in the following form: “Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.”

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 634.)

### § 102. Resolving clause

The resolving clause of all joint resolutions shall be in the following form: “Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.”

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 634.)

### § 103. Enacting or resolving words after first section

No enacting or resolving words shall be used in any section of an Act or resolution of Congress except in the first.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 634.)

### § 104. Numbering of sections; single proposition

Each section shall be numbered, and shall contain, as nearly as may be, a single proposition of enactment.

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 634.)

### § 105. Title of appropriation Acts

The style and title of all Acts making appropriations for the support of Government shall be as follows: “An Act making appropriations (here insert the object) for the year ending September 30 (here insert the calendar year).”

(July 30, 1947, ch. 388, 61 Stat. 634; Pub. L. 93-344, title V, §506(a), July 12, 1974, 88 Stat. 322.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1974—Pub. L. 93-344 substituted “September 30” for “June 30”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1974 AMENDMENT

Section 506(b) of Pub. L. 93-344, which provided that the amendment of this section by Pub. L. 93-344 was effective with respect to Acts making appropriations for the support of the Government for any fiscal year commencing on or after Oct. 1, 1976, was omitted in the complete revision of title V of Pub. L. 93-344 by Pub. L. 101-508, title XIII, §13201(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-609.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Does not conform to section catchline.