

Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/s/162

# S 162

Gila River Indian Community Judgment Fund Distribution Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

**Policy Area:** Native Americans **Introduced:** Jan 15, 2003

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 108-22.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 108-22. (May 14, 2003)

Law: 108-22 (Enacted May 14, 2003)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/162

### **Sponsor**

Name: Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]

Party: Republican • State: AZ • Chamber: Senate

## **Cosponsors**

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## **Committee Activity**

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Mar 10, 2003
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 25, 2003

## **Subjects & Policy Tags**

## **Policy Area:**

Native Americans

#### **Related Bills**

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 458	Identical bill	Mar 25, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water and Power.

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported in the Senate on March 10, 2003. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Gila River Indian Community Judgment Fund Distribution Act of 2003 - **Title I: Gila River Judgment Fund Distribution** - (Sec. 101) Requires the per capita distribution of funds paid in settlement of claims made in Docket Nos. 236-C and 236-D, Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community v. United States, to enrolled members of the Gila River Indian Community (Arizona).

Requires the Community to prepare a payment role according to specified criteria. Defines eligible and ineligible recipients.

Requires the Gila River Indian Community to provide to the Secretary of the Interior: (1) a notice that indicates the total number of eligible recipients; and (2) enrollment information necessary to allow the Secretary to establish estate accounts for deceased recipients and Individual Indian Money accounts for legally incompetent individuals and minors.

Directs the Secretary to disburse funds within 30 days after Community approval of the payment roll. Makes special provision for deceased or legally incompetent individuals and minors.

Permits payments of eligible individuals not on the roll out of residual funds and Community-owned funds, as specified.

Requires that any judgment funds remaining after distribution, any share remaining unclaimed for six years, or any unpayable share be deposited in the general fund of the Community.

**Title II: Conditions Relating To Community Judgment Fund Plans** - (Sec. 201) Directs the Community to modify the judgment funds distribution plans in Docket No. 228 of the U.S. Claims Court and Docket No. 236-N of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims to require the Secretary to: (1) hold the per capital shares of minors in trust until they attain age 18; (2) not disburse judgment funds or interest earned until a minor attains age 18; and (3) distribute to the Community and deposit in its general fund, upon Community request, any residual principal and interest funds remaining after the Community has declared the per capita payments have been completed.

**Title III: Expert Assistance Loans** - (Sec. 301) Cancels the balance of all outstanding expert assistance loans to the Gila River Indian Community made by the Department of the Interior.

#### **Actions Timeline**

- May 14, 2003: Signed by President.
- May 14, 2003: Signed by President.
- May 14, 2003: Became Public Law No: 108-22.
- May 14, 2003: Became Public Law No: 108-22.
- May 2, 2003: Presented to President.
- May 2, 2003: Presented to President.
- Apr 29, 2003: Mr. Renzi moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- Apr 29, 2003: Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H3428-3431)
- Apr 29, 2003: DEBATE The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 162.
- Apr 29, 2003: Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H3428-3430)
- Apr 29, 2003: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H3428-3430)
- Apr 29, 2003: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- Mar 25, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water and Power.
- Mar 17, 2003: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- Mar 17, 2003: Received in the House.
- Mar 17, 2003: Referred to the House Committee on Resources.
- Mar 13, 2003: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S3753-3754; text as passed Senate: CR S3753-3754)
- Mar 13, 2003: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S3753-3754; text as passed Senate: CR S3753-3754)
- Mar 10, 2003: Committee on Indian Affairs. Reported by Senator Campbell without amendment. With written report No. 108-17.
- Mar 10, 2003: Committee on Indian Affairs. Reported by Senator Campbell without amendment. With written report No. 108-17.
- Mar 10, 2003: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 30.
- Feb 26, 2003: Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- Jan 15, 2003: Introduced in Senate
- Jan 15, 2003: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S848-849)
- Jan 15, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.