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In the Senate of the United States. Letter from the Acting Secretary of the Interior, transmitting draft of an amendment of the law authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to accept the surrender of and cancel patents to Indians in certain cases.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

LETTER

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

Draft of an amendment of the law authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to accept the surrender of and cancel patents to Indians in certain cases.

MAY 17, 1892.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, May 14, 1892.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith draft of an amendment to section 2 of the act of October 19, 1888, entitled "An act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to accept the surrender of and cancel land patents to Indians in certain cases."

Cases have arisen in which, through error, lands have been patented to minor Indian children which were not selected for them and which are not such as they desire, and it seems but right and proper that provision be made in the law for the relinquishment to the United States of such patented lands, so that selection can be made for lands desired.

I have therefore the honor to request that the inclosed amendment be inserted as an item in the pending Indian appropriation bill.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

GEO. CHANDLER,
Acting Secretary.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

That section two of the act approved October nineteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, entitled "An act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to accept the surrender of and cancel land patents to Indians in certain cases," be, and is hereby, amended by adding thereto the following, namely: *Provided further*, That in cases of minor children coming within the purview of this section the relinquishment may be executed by the father, or, if he be dead, by the mother or by the guardian of such child, and the relinquishment so executed shall, when accepted by the Secretary of the Interior, have the effect of revesting in the United States title to said land free from any claim of such allottee, and a new allotment may be selected for such minor child under and in accordance with the provisions of the act of February eighth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven.

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