

1 The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to transfer
2 to an Indian tribe or community, and to accept on behalf
3 of the tribe or community, any member's interest in re-
4 stricted farming, grazing, or timberlands, and shall issue
5 a nontransferable certificate in exchange, evidencing a pro-
6 portionate interest in tribal or community lands of similar
7 quality, if in his opinion such transfer is necessary for the
8 proper consolidation of Indian lands: *Provided, however,*
9 That any Indian making beneficial use of such transferred
10 lands shall be entitled to continue the occupancy and use
11 of such lands, and to any improvements thereon, or to receive
12 adequate compensation for such improvements, subject to
13 the provisions of section 14 of this title. For the purpose
14 of this section "proportionate interest" shall be construed
15 to mean a right to use or to receive the income from an
16 equivalent amount of tribal or community land of similar
17 quality or to receive the money value of any lawful dis-
18 position of the interest transferred if such right of use is
19 not exercised. A member's proportionate interest may
20 descend to the heirs of such member but not to any non-
21 member, and his right of use of transferred land, if exer-
22 cised, may similarly descend to the heirs of such member.

23 The Secretary of the Interior may sell and convey to
24 an Indian, to an Indian tribe, or community, any restricted