

Whereas -- The Fifth Amendment prohibits converting private property to a public use or a public purpose without just compensation if the owner does not consent and this prohibition applies to the Federal government as well as states of the Union. It was made applicable to the states of the Union by the Fourteenth Amendment in 1886. The US Code defines the term "United States" Title 5 USC, Sec, 5911 - TITLE 5 PART 111 Subpart D Chapter 59 SUBCHAPTER 11 -HEAD- Section 5911. Quarters and facilities; employees in the United States-STATUTE-(a) For the purpose of this section - (4) "United States" means the several States, the district of Columbia, and the territories and possessions of the United States including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.