TITLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS
   CHAPTER 1 - RULES OF CONSTRUCTION

§ 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.
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
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. 112–74
Pub. L. 112–74, § 3, Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 787, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any
reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012, see Tables for
classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

References in Pub. L. 112–55
Pub. L. 112–55, § 3, Nov. 18, 2011, 125 Stat. 552, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any
reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act,
2012, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”
References in Pub. L. 112–10

References in Pub. L. 111–118
Pub. L. 111–118, § 3, Dec. 19, 2009, 123 Stat. 3409, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

References in Pub. L. 111–117
Pub. L. 111–117, § 3, Dec. 16, 2009, 123 Stat. 3035, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

References in Pub. L. 111–8
Pub. L. 111–8, § 3, Mar. 11, 2009, 123 Stat. 525, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

References in Pub. L. 111–5

References in Pub. L. 110–329
Pub. L. 110–329, § 3, Sept. 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 3574, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ or ‘this joint resolution’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

References in Pub. L. 110–161
Pub. L. 110–161, § 3, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 1845, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

References in Pub. L. 110–116
Pub. L. 110–116, § 2, Nov. 13, 2007, 121 Stat. 1295, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referencing only to the provisions of that division.”

References in Pub. L. 109–289

References in Pub. L. 109–148

References in Pub. L. 109–115
Development, the Judiciary, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this division.”

**References in Pub. L. 108–447**

Pub. L. 108–447, § 3, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2810, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

**References in Pub. L. 108–199**

Pub. L. 108–199, § 3, Jan. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4, provided that: “Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ‘this Act’ contained in any division of this Act [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, see Tables for classification] shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.”

**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.”