

An Act for the better securing the safety of the Election returns in the Elections of Principal Chief, and of the National Officers.

Be it enacted by the General Council of the Choctaw Nation assembled:

Sec 1.

That at every election for Principal Chief, or for any or all of the National Officers, upon the delivery by the Sheriff or his deputy, to the proper Supreme Judge of the poll-books of such Sheriff's County, said Judge shall give to such Sheriff a receipt naming each poll book received, and particularly describing the condition of the same, whether securely sealed, mutilated or not.

Sec 2.

The Supreme Judge shall at once deposit such poll-books in a secure box or other safe receptacle, in which there shall be kept no other thing except the the poll-books containing the returns of election for Principal Chief or for National Officers. He shall retain said poll-books in said box or receptacle, under lock & key, until such time as he is by law required to transmit them to the National Secretary. While said books are in his possession, the Supreme Judge shall not exhibit the same to any one, nor permit any person, under any pretext to inspect or to handle the same.

Sec 3.

At the proper time, such Judge shall, in person, take said poll-books to the National Secretary, who shall give to such Judge receipts in all respects similar to those required herein to be given, by the Supreme Judges to the various Sheriffs.

Sec 4.

Upon the delivery, by the National Secretary to the Speaker of the House of such poll books, said Speaker shall give similar receipts to said Secretary.

Sec 5.

It shall be the duty of each Supreme Judge to preserve duplicates, made at the time, of all receipts so given by him to the ~~the~~ various Sheriffs. These duplicates he shall deliver to said Speaker of the House, in person, as soon as practicable after he has delivered the poll books to the National Secretary.

Sec 6.

In case any Supreme Judge is unable by reason of sickness, or other unavoidable casualty, to deliver the poll-books & duplicate receipts in person to the National Secretary & Speaker of the House respectively as hereinabove required, then he shall at once notify the National Secretary of such inability. The National Secretary shall thereupon proceed in person to the place where such Supreme Judge may be, there receive from him the

Sec 6 (Cont'd.)

poll-books & duplicate receipts; & deliver to him receipts as herein above required. And the National Secretary shall then deliver the books ^{duplicate} receipts to the Speaker as aforesaid. In case of the inability of the National Secretary to act as provided in this Section, then the President of the Senate shall designate some one of the other National Officers to act in his stead.

And be it further enacted:

Sec 7.

That if any Judge of Election ~~fail~~ ^{fail} to certify to any poll-book; or, after having certified thereto, refuse to deliver the same, in manner & form as prescribed by law, then, in either such event, he shall be deemed guilty of a felony; & he shall, upon indictment & conviction thereof be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), & in case he fails to pay the fine assessed within one day, he shall receive not less than thirty nine (39) nor more than one hundred lashes well laid on on his bare back.

And this Act shall take effect ^{and before} from and after its passage.
propose by W. G. Ward

Bill no. 35.

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Approved
Nov. 13, 1890,
W. A. Jones
P. C. C. N.

Filed in my ^{office}
this 14th day
of Nov. 1890.
J. B. Jacobs
Nat. Secy
C. N.

Passed the House
& referred to the
Senate Oct. 30, 1890
S. D. Wright
Speaker
Passed the Senate
and referred to
The Chief
Nov 13 1890
J. H. Bryant
President
Senate