

BILL NO.17.

WHEREAS, The Chief Executives of the Five Civilized Tribes in convention at Eufaula, Indian Territory, May 21,1903, recommended that the General Council of each Nation authorize the Chief Executive to issue a proclamation calling an election to determine whether or not the legal voters of each Nation are in favor of an International Constitutional Convention to frame a Constitution for a state government for Indian Territory alone, to become effective when the several Tribal governments expire March 4,1906;

WHEREAS, The Chief Executives further recommended that said election be held not later than December 20,1903, and that the election be held in the same manner as other elections are held with the exception that the votes cast in each Nation be certified by the precinct officers and forwarded to the Chief Executive, and that the Chief Executives of the Five Civilized Tribes constitute a Board of Commissioners who shall canvass and count the votes cast in each Nation and issue proclamation of the result not later than January 4,1904; and

WHEREAS, The best interests of the members of the Five Civilized Tribes demand that the said election shall be favorable to the said constitutional Convention to the end that the Indians may have a voice in the formation of the government that will succeed their several tribal governments, thereby protecting their property interests; and

WHEREAS, The said Eufaula convention appointed a committee of five persons, (one from each Nation) whose duty it is to make all arrangements for the said election and to acquaint the Indians of the several tribes with the importance of holding the said convention; and

WHEREAS, The said committee will incur heavy expenses in printing literature in English and in the several Indian languages

and distributing the same among the members of the tribes, among members of Congress and among the several organizations outside of the Indian Territory whose co-operation is invited; now therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE
GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION
ASSEMBLED.

Sec.1 That the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated to defray the Choctaw Nations' portion of all expenses necessary to carry forward the plans recommended by the Chief Executives.

Sec.2 The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to issue his certificate to the National Auditor, from time to time, to cover the said expenses as they are incurred and the National Treasurer shall pay the warrants.

Sec.3 This Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

proposed by Jackson James
Chairman Chief's Message
Committee.

Read, interpreted, passed the Senate and referred to Lower House this Oct. 22, 1903.

Attest: Joe W. Conner
Recording Sec.

James Bowser
Pres. Senate.

Read, interpreted, passed the House and referred to the Chief this October 23, 1903.

Attest: E. E. Dyer
Recording Sec'y.

R. J. Ward
Speaker of House.

Approved this October 23, 1903.

Green McCurtain
Prin. Chief C.N.

WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, D.C., December 30 1903.

Approved:

T. Roosevelt

O F F I C E
NATIONAL SECRETARY, CHOCTAW NATION

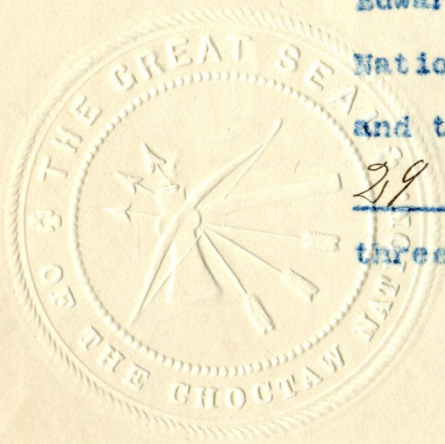
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T H I S I S T O C E R T I F Y :

That the above and hereto attached BILL No. 17 is an Act of the Choctaw General Council, passed at a regular session thereof in October, 1903, and approved by the Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, in his official character on October 23, 1903, and that I do hereby respectfully submit the same for the approval of the President of the United States, in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the ACT OF CONGRESS of June 28, 1898 (30 Stats. 495), entitled "AN ACT FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

I N T E S T I M O N Y W H E R E O F , I ,

Edward H. Wilson, National Secretary of the Choctaw Nation, have hereunto affixed my official signature and the GREAT SEAL of the Choctaw Nation, this the 29 day of October, One thousand nine hundred and three.



Edward H. Wilson

National Secretary,
Choctaw Nation.

Filed in the office of the National
Secretary of the Choctaw Nation
the day of Jan 1904
E. J. Wilson
National Secretary.

Filed in the office of the National
Secretary of the Choctaw Nation
day of _____ 190____
National Secretary.

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NOV 10 1911
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INDIAN TERRITORY DIVISION

Department of the Interior,
RECEIVED.
DEC 28 1903
Enc. No. 1 of 8558
Indian Territory Division.

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Indian Office
Incl. No. 4
1903

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

UNITED STATES INDIAN INSPECTOR

FOR

INDIAN TERRITORY,

D 8330-1904

Muskogee, Ind. T., Jan. 14, 1904.

Mr. E.H. Wilson,

National Secretary, Choctaw Nation,

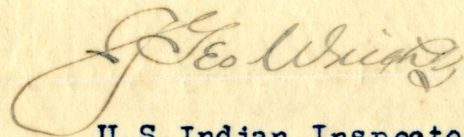
Fort Towson, Indian Territory.

Sir:-

I have to respectfully return herewith an act of your National Council, approved by the Principal Chief, October 23, 1903, appropriating \$500.00 to defray the expenses of the Choctaw Nation in calling and conducting an election to determine the sentiment of the Choctaw Indians in the matter of statehood.

As shown by the endorsement thereon, this act was approved by the President December 30, 1903.

Very respectfully,



U.S. Indian Inspector
for Indian Territory.

D.H.K. (C)
Encl. 212.