

BILL NO.11.

AN ACT TO RATIFY AND CONFIRM THE EMPLOYMENT OF MESSRS. McCURTAIN AND HILL, AS COUNSEL, IN GUARDIANSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION, BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF, AND PROVIDE COMPENSATION.

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W h e r e a s, By the following provisions of the act of Congress, approved April 28, 1904, the Arkansas guardianship and administration law was extended and put in force in the Indian Territory:

"All the laws of Arkansas, heretofore put in force in Indian Territory, are hereby continued and extended in their operation so as to embrace all persons and estates in said Territory, whether Indian, Freedmen, or otherwise, and full and complete jurisdiction is hereby conferred on the District Courts in said Territory in the settlement of all estates of decedents, the guardianship of minors and incompetents, whether Indians, Freedmen, or otherwise", a n d,

W h e r e a s, Our people are unaccustomed to the procedure in Federal Courts, and many of them are without the means necessary to protect their interests before said tribunals, a n d ,

W h e r e a s, Unscrupulous parties, known as grafters, are taking advantage of the unfortunate condition of our people to defraud them of their property, and sometimes of the landed interest itself, under guise of guardianship or administration, procured by misrepresentation; now, t h e r e f o r e ,

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

Section 1. That the action of the Principal Chief in employing Messrs. McCurtain and Hill, attorneys in Choctaw guardianship and administration in the United States Courts be, and the same is hereby ratified and confirmed.

Section 2. That for the services performed and to be performed by the attorneys employed in guardianship and administration, said attorneys shall receive as compensation the sum of fifteen thousand (\$15,000.)



dollars; provided that said services shall continue to the end of the tribal government, namely; March 4, 1906, without additional compensation.

Section 3. That in addition to the compensation herein provided, the sum of five thousand (\$5,000.) dollars, per annum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be allowed to said attorneys as expenses in the prosecution of guardianship and administration cases in their charge.

Section 4. That said attorneys are hereby required and directed to make a full and complete report to the next council of the service rendered and the expenses incurred in each and every case where they are attorneys of record, or in which they enter an appearance in behalf of the Indian parties in interest.

Section 5. That a sum sufficient to carry into effect the provisions of this act is hereby set aside and made available as additional contingent fund of the Principal Chief; that for the compensation and expenses herein provided, the National Auditor shall issue his warrant quarterly, upon the certificate of the Principal Chief, and the National Treasurer shall pay the same.

Section 6. That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Proposed by James Bower, Chairman of Finance Committee.

Passed the Senate October 27th, 1904.

*G. W. Choate*  
President of the Senate.

Passed the House October 27th, 1904.

*J. J. Impson*  
Speaker of the House.

Approved October 27th, 1904.

*Green M. Curtain*  
Principal Chief, Choctaw Nation.



OFFICE  
OF  
NATIONAL SECRETARY, CHOCTAW NATION.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY;

That the above and hereto attached Bill No.11 is an Act of the Choctaw General Council passed at the Regular session thereof in Nineteen Hundred and Four, and approved by the Principal Chief of said Nation in his official character on the twenty-seventh day of October, 1904, and 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 approved June 28.1898 (30 Stats.,495), entitled "AN ACT FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES".

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, 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 13 day of June 1906.



*Edward H. Wilson*

National Secretary,  
Choctaw Nation.

THE WHITE HOUSE.

August 1, 1907.

Approved.

*Theodore Roosevelt*