



**NCA 17-128**

**CLASSIFICATION: #5. CHURCHES AND CERMONIAL GROUNDS**

**A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 5., CHAPTER 2. ENTITLED "FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE" AND CREATING NEW LAW IN MCNCA TITLE 5 § 2-107 ENTITLED "HEATING EXPENSE GRANT"**

**Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:**

**SECTION ONE. FINDINGS. The National Council finds that:**

A. Muscogee (Creek) Traditional Churches ("Churches") hold a special place in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and within their communities.

B. They are historically recognized as a primary strength and refuge for Muscogee (Creek) families and provide an extended outreach of services and assistance.

C. During the winter months, November through February, it is of the utmost importance to have heat running to prevent pipes from freezing. Over the years, several Churches had busted pipes due to either no propane or low propane. The prices of propane have been exorbitant in recent years, which made it difficult for our citizens and Churches to purchase it.

D. In addition, there are also several churches that need assistance with their natural gas or electric bills during the winter months.

E. There is a need to provide the Nation's Churches with financial assistance in purchasing propane and helping with natural gas and electric costs for heating during the winter months.

**SECTION TWO. AMENDMENT. These amendments shall be codified in Title 5, Chapter 2, of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; provided that for purposes of codification of said amendment and its inclusion in pocket parts of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Codification Committee is hereby authorized: (1) to approve any changes related to the manner in which sections, articles, chapters and sub-chapters are designated consistent with the format in the Code of Laws published in 2010 by West Publishing Company; (2) to include footnoted references to the legislative history in said pocket parts to the Code of Laws and (3) to note in said pocket parts any editorial correction of minor clerical or grammatical errors in the following amendment, without further National Council approval:**

**Page 2 of 4**  
**NCA 17-128**

**SECTION THREE. AMENDMENT.** MCNCA Title 35 § 2-101.B. is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 2-101. Findings

B. Due to numerous factors, many Churches and Ceremonial Grounds are in great need of **assistance for heating expenses**, maintenance, repair and/or larger more improved facilities.

**SECTION FOUR. AMENDMENT.** MCNCA TITLE 35 § 2-105.B. is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 2-105. Funding

A. All funding requests from Muscogee (Creek) Traditional Churches that are fifty (50) years or older or churches that can provide documentation demonstrating that eighty percent (80%) of their membership is Muscogee (Creek) citizens and the sixteen established Ceremonial Grounds **that are located within the Nation's jurisdictional boundaries**, as well as funding requests from Muscogee (Creek) citizens for Ceremonial Ground camp repairs and Church camp house and fellowship hall repairs/renovation **whose location is within the Nation's jurisdictional boundaries**, shall only be addressed through the Comprehensive Assistance Grant Program. Any emergency request not qualifying for the Comprehensive Assistance Grant Program shall be referred to the Land, Natural Resources & Cultural Preservation Committee to be considered, subject to the availability of funds.

B. Funds for Muscogee (Creek) Traditional Churches and Ceremonial Grounds shall be limited to: ~~Eight~~ **Seventy** ~~Hundred Twenty~~ **Five** Thousand and No/100 Dollars (~~\$82775,000.00~~) **for the Churches and Ceremonial Grounds Grant;** and ~~funds~~ One Hundred Seventy-Five and No/100 Dollars (\$175,000.00) for **the** Ceremonial Ground camp repairs and Church camp house and fellowship hall repairs/renovation **Grant** shall be limited to ~~One Hundred Seventy Five and No/100 Dollars (\$175,000.00);~~ **and Fifty Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$50,000.00) for the Heating Expense Grant** per fiscal year.

**SECTION FIVE. NEW LAW.** The following new law shall be codified in Title 5 § 2-107. of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; provided that for purposes of codification of said new law and its inclusion in pocket parts for the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Attorney General is hereby authorized: (1) to approve any changes related to the manner in which sections, articles, chapters and sub-chapters are designated in this law in order to be consistent with the format in the Code of Laws published in 2010 by West Publishing Company; (2) to include footnoted references to the legislative history in said pocket parts to the Code of Laws; and (3) to note in said

pocket parts any editorial correction of minor clerical or grammatical errors in the following new law:

**§ 2-107. Heating Expense Grant.**

A. Each Church shall complete and submit application for the Heating Expenses Program to the National Council in order to receive financial assistance up to \$750.00 for the purchase of propane or \$500.00 for natural gas or electric utilities once per fiscal year.

B. The National Council will maintain a list of all eligible Muscogee (Creek) Traditional Churches and only those Churches on the list maintained by the National Council may apply.

C. Upon receiving a complete application and required documentation, the National Council will provide the Principal Chief with a copy of said application and documentation. Upon signature of the application by the Principal Chief, the Controller shall remit payment.

D. Each Grant recipient shall submit receipts to the National Council, which will be forwarded to Controller.

E. The annual appropriation for the Church Heating Expenses Program shall be established at Fifty Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$50,000.00) beginning with the FY 2018 Comprehensive Annual Budget and annually thereafter.

**SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act shall become effective immediately upon proper approval and execution in accordance with the requirements of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution

**ENACTED** by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council has hereto attached his signature.

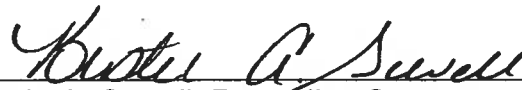


---

Lucian Tiger III, Speaker  
National Council  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

**CERTIFICATION**

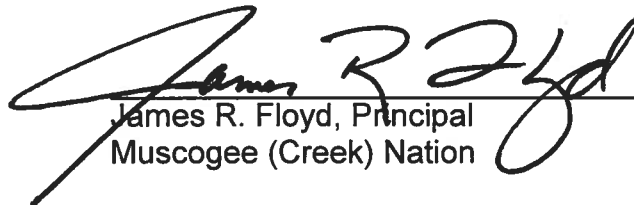
I, the undersigned, certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council comprised of Sixteen members with **Fifteen** members attending this meeting on the **29<sup>th</sup>** day of **July, 2017** and that the above is in conformity with the provisions therein adopted by a vote of **14** in favor, **0** against, and that said Law has not been rescinded or amended in any way and the above is the signature of the Speaker of the National Council.



Kristie A. Sewell, Recording Secretary  
Muscogee (Creek) National Council

**APPROVAL**

I, the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, hereby affix my signature on this **2nd** day of **August**, 2017 to the above Law, **NCA 17-128** authorizing it to become a Law under Article VI., Section VI., of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



James R. Floyd, Principal  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

