

2-27-1872

Expenses of General Council of Indians. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, relative to an appropriation to defray the expenses of the General Council of Indians in the Indian Territory.

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#### Recommended Citation

H.R. Exec. Doc. No. 157, 42nd Cong., 2nd Sess. (1872)

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EXPENSES OF GENERAL COUNCIL OF INDIANS.

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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RELATIVE TO

*An appropriation to defray the expenses of the general council of Indians in the Indian Territory.*

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FEBRUARY 27, 1872.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C., February 23, 1872.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 21st instant, and the accompanying papers, including an estimate of appropriation for \$5,000, required to defray the expenses of the "general council" of Indians in the Indian Territory, under provisions of the several treaties between the United States and the different tribes of Indians, as enumerated by the Commissioner.

The subject is respectfully submitted to Congress for its favorable consideration and action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

HON. JAMES G. BLAINE,  
*Speaker House of Representatives.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, D. C., February 21, 1872.*

SIR: By the 12th article of the treaty with the Cherokee Indians of July 19, 1866, (St., vol. 14, p. 802;) the 10th article treaty with Creeks of June 14, 1866, (St., vol. 14, p. 788;) the 7th article treaty with the Seminoles of March 21, 1866, (St., vol. 14, p. 758;) and the 8th article of the treaty with the Choctaws and Chickasaws of April 28, 1866, (St., vol. 14, p. 772,) it is agreed that a general council, consisting of dele-

gates from each tribe lawfully residing within the Indian Territory, shall be annually convened, with powers to legislate upon matters pertaining to the intercourse and relations of said tribes, the arrest and extradition of criminals and offenders from one tribe to another, the administration of justice between members of different tribes, and the common defense and safety of the nations of the said Territory.

To defray the expenses of holding this general council, the sum of \$10,000 was appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, and \$13,500 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872.

Of funds thus appropriated there is now on hand an unexpended balance of about \$9,000. It is estimated that the expenses of the general council of said Indians, to be held next summer, will reach the sum of \$14,000, leaving a deficit of five thousand dollars to be provided for.

I have the honor herewith to inclose copies (in duplicate) of letters from the Cherokee and Creek delegations now in this city, calling the attention of this office to the subject under consideration, and respectfully to request that Congress be asked to appropriate the sum of \$5,000, as above, to enable the Department to fulfill treaty stipulations with the Indian tribes concerned.

An estimate for the sum referred to is herewith inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,  
*Commissioner.*

Hon. C. DELANO,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., *February 19, 1872.*

SIR: The undersigned, delegation of the Creek Nation, respectfully represent that, having seen no estimate on the general Indian appropriation bill to defray the expenses of the grand council provided for in the 10th article of the Creek treaty of the 14th June, 1866, and feeling a deep interest in the faithful execution of our treaty stipulations with the Government, (for upon this, in our opinion, hinges the salvation of the red man,) we would respectfully but earnestly insist upon an estimate being made out from your Department for this purpose.

Most respectfully submitted.

S. W. PERRYMAN,  
*Chairman Creek Delegation.*  
JNO. R. MOORE,  
*Secretary.*

Hon. FRANCIS A. WALKER,  
*Commissioner Indian Affairs.*

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., *February 15, 1872.*

SIR: We would request of you to make estimate for the expenses of the general Indian council to be held at Okmulgee the ensuing season, under provisions of treaty, and that you will send the same so as to have it included in the Indian appropriation bill, if necessary, as an amendment.

We remain, with respect, your obedient servants,

W. P. ROSS,  
W. P. ADAIR,  
C. V. VANN,  
*Cherokee Delegation.*

Hon. FRANCIS A. WALKER,  
*Commissioner Indian Affairs.*

*Estimate of appropriation required to defray expenses of holding a "general council" of the Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, and Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians, in the Indian Territory, as provided by the treaties with said tribes in the year 1866.*

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to defray the expenses of a "general council" of certain Indians in the Indian Territory, as provided by the 12th article of the treaty of July 19, 1866, with the Cherokees; the 10th article treaty June 14, 1866, with the Creeks; the 7th article treaty March 21, 1866, with the Seminoles; and the 8th article of the treaty of April 28, 1866, with the Choctaws and Chickasaws..... \$5,000 00