

BILL NUMBER NCA 21-053

TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL

May 4, 2021
(DATE OF INTRODUCTION)

INTRODUCED BY: Mark Randolph

SPONSOR(S): Mark Randolph

COMMITTEE: Business, Finance & Justice

CLASSIFICATION: 00- Constitution

1 **A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF**
2 **THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO ADD ARTICLE XIV INDEPENDENT FREE**
3 **PRESS**
4

5 **Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:**
6

7 **SECTION ONE. FINDINGS. The National Council finds that:**
8

9 A. Currently, there is no provision in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek)
10 Nation regarding free press.

11 B. An independent free press would allow the Muscogee (Creek) citizens to
12 receive unbiased news and reports.
13

14 **SECTION TWO. PURPOSE. The purpose of this law is to authorize a vote of the**
15 **Muscogee (Creek) citizens to consider amending the Constitution of the Muscogee**
16 **(Creek) Nation by adding an Article XIV "Independent Free Press."**
17

18 **SECTION THREE. PROPOSED AMENDMENT. The Principal Chief shall refer to the**
19 **voters of the Muscogee Creek Nation for their approval or rejection as in the manner**
20 **prescribed by law, the following proposed Amendment of the Constitution of the**
21 **Muscogee (Creek) Nation by adding Article XIV Independent Free Press:**
22

23 **ARTICLE XIV – INDEPENDENT FREE PRESS**
24

25 **Section 1. The Muscogee Creek Nation shall have an Independent Press that shall**
26 **be free from political interest or undue influence, harassment, censorship, control**
27 **or restrictions from any department of the government of the Muscogee (Creek)**
28 **Nation in order to provide unbiased news and reports objectively to the Muscogee**
29 **(Creek) citizens.**

30 **Section 2. For the purpose of this legislation, Independent Press is meant to**
31 **include all editorial outlets: Television, Radio and Creative.**
32

1 Section 3: Editorial Board. The Independent Press shall be governed by an
2 independent Editorial Board. The Editorial Board alone shall have the power to hire
3 a Director. The Director shall oversee Mvskoke Media personnel, including hiring
4 staff.

5
6 Section 4: Funding. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall fund day to day operations
7 and publication of the Independent Press.

8
9
10 **SECTION FOUR. BALLOT FORM.** The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional
11 Amendment as set forth in Section Three of this Act shall be in the following form:

12
13 **BALLOT TITLE**

14
15 National Council Referendum No. ____

16
17 THE PURPOSE OF THE PORPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

18
19 Shall the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation be amended by
20 adding a new Article XIV as follows:

21
22 **ARTICLE XIV – INDEPENDENT FREE PRESS**

23
24 Section 1. The Muscogee Creek Nation shall have an Independent Press that
25 shall be free from political interest or undue influence, harassment,
26 editorship, control or restrictions from any department of the government
27 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in order to provide unbiased news and
28 reports objectively to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

29
30 Section 2. For the purpose of this legislation, Independent Press is meant
31 to include all editorial outlets: Television, Radio and Creative.

32
33 Section 3: Editorial Board. The Independent Press shall be governed by an
34 Independent Editorial Board. The Editorial Board alone shall have the power
35 to hire a Director. The Director shall oversee Mvskoke Media personnel,
36 including hiring staff.

37
38 Section 4: Funding. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall fund day to day
39 operations and publication of the Independent Press.

40
41 YES, For the Amendment

42 NO, Against the Amendment

43
44 **SECTION FIVE. ELECTION.** The National Council hereby requests the Principal
45 Chief and the Election Board to include these Constitutional Amendments on the ballot

1 for the Primary Election set for September 18, 2021 as required by the Muscogee (Creek)
2 Nation Constitution.

3 **SECTION SIX. APPROVAL.** As provided in the Muscogee Creek Nation
4 Constitution, Article IX, § 1(a)(2), if the above question is ratified by two-thirds of the voters
5 in the election, the Amendment shall have full force and effect from the date of approval.

DRAFT