



Muscoogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band

March 13, 2019

The Muscoogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band is pleased to announce that United States House Bill 1514 was introduced on March 5, 2019, in the U.S. House of Representatives on behalf of Creek Freedmen by U.S. Representative Danny Davis (D-IL)! The expressed purpose of HB 1514 is “To sever United States Government relations with the Creek Nation of Oklahoma until such time as the Creek Nation of Oklahoma restores full Tribal citizenship to the Creek Freedmen disenfranchised in the October 6, 1979, Creek Nation vote and fulfills all its treaty obligations with the Government of the United States, and for other purposes.”

Over the last seven months Attorney Damario Solomon-Simmons, Rhonda K. Grayson, Sharon Lenzy-Scott, Jeffrey D. Kennedy, and other members of the MCIFB have worked to educate members of the Congressional Black Caucus (“CBC”) about the plight of the thousands of so-called Creek Freedmen (Black Creeks) Descendants who have been disenfranchised by the Creek Nation. During our meetings with CBC members, we requested that they use their power to stop the Creek Nation from illegally excluding Creek Freedmen from Creek citizenship and associated benefits. We explained that the Creek Nation was violating Article II of the Creek Treaty of 1866 by denying our citizenship rights, and how the CBC (led by retired Rep. Diane Watson (D-CA)) helped the Black Cherokee Freedmen secure their full citizenship rights within the Cherokee Nation.

Our efforts have been very well received; however, it was Rep. Davis and his Chief of Staff, Yul Edwards, who quickly decided that they would “Champion our Cause” and file legislation to stop the intentional racial discrimination that Creek Freedmen have experienced since 1979. We are deeply grateful and appreciative to Rep. Davis for his decision and actions on such a personal and important issue that impacts tens of thousands of so-called Black Creek a/k/a Creek Freedmen.

Attached is a copy of the Bill in its entirety.



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