

Cherokee Nation Code Annotated

Title 70: Schools and Education

Chapter 8: Verna D. Thompson Early Childhood Education Act

§ 803. Amounts Authorized

Cite as: 70 CNCA § 803

A. The Council Authorizes up to \$80 million for fiscal years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, in total, to effectuate the purposes and policies of this Act, including the repair or replacement of all existing Head Start facilities and the purchase of land for such facilities as warranted.

B. The funding source for amounts authorized under this Act is dividends received from those Governmental Revenue Entities in which Cherokee Nation is the sole or majority shareholder, and that are incorporated under Cherokee Nation law. Other sources of funding, such as federal funding, other grants, miscellaneous sources and contributions, revenues of enterprises, taxes, and special and general fund sources, may be used to supplement or supplant this funding in order to maximize the beneficial impact through a cohesive strategy to achieve the purposes and policies of this Act.

C. In the case of replacement of Head Start facilities, such facilities may be dedicated Head Start facilities or be multi-use facilities for Head Start, other Cherokee Nation programs and/or services or public school programs with appropriate lease arrangements, provided such facilities are owned by the Cherokee Nation and constructed on Cherokee Nation owned land.

D. All funds authorized under this Act are subject to the Council appropriations process.

E. Head Start facilities in existence as of the date of this Act are attached as Appendix A.

F. Hereafter any capital project for which at least one-quarter of funds are derived from funds authorized under this Act shall be designated as a project "Funded by the Verna D. Thompson Act."

G. In the case of expansion of early childhood education and childcare programs the Principal Chief or his or her designee may find it appropriate to seek external partnerships resulting in co-location or MOUs where appropriate.

Historical Data

LA 46-21, eff. October 12, 2021. Amended LA 08-24, eff. March 11, 2024.