

TO: JOIN EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS
IN OPPOSING CLOSURE OF U.S. HWY. 441
THRU GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

UNITED SOUTHEASTERN TRIBES

RESOLUTION NO. USET- 1-71

WHEREAS, the director of the National Park Service has recommended the eventual closing out of U. S. Hwy. 441 through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park between Cherokee, North Carolina, and Gatlinburg, Tennessee, in a Transportation Concept Report issued in February of this year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed closure of this road would cause undue hardship to many people, including especially the members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians by:

1. Cutting off from Cherokee about 40% of the incoming tourist traffic upon which a major share of the Reservation economy is based.
2. By increasing drastically the cost of transportation for Cherokee people who wish to travel to Gatlinburg and points in Eastern Tennessee for purposes of business, education, and recreation.
3. Preventing millions of America's senior citizens from seeing the splendor of the interior regions of this Park; and

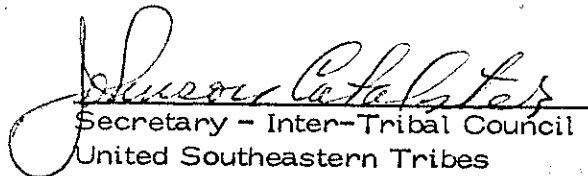
WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior will be acting on this recommendation sometime in the near future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the United Southeastern Tribes go on record as supporting the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and other groups of concerned citizens in expressing adamant opposition to the proposed closure of this stretch of highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be furnished by the Executive Director of this organization to the Secretary of the Interior, the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: That the Executive Director of the United Southeastern Tribes also furnish copies of this resolution to the appropriate Congressional Representatives in the states of North Carolina, Mississippi, and Florida, and request them to join with the United Southeastern Tribes in expressing opposition to the closure of this road to Secretary of the Interior Morton.

DONE THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 1971, at a regular meeting of the duly appointed representatives of the United Southeastern Tribes convened at Cherokee, North Carolina, a quorum being present, by unanimous vote.


Secretary - Inter-Tribal Council
United Southeastern Tribes

APPROVED:


President - Inter-Tribal Council
United Southeastern Tribes