

UNITED SOUTHEASTERN TRIBES, INC.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-18

FINAL IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS - P.L. 94-437

- WHEREAS, the general health status of American Indians and Alaskan Natives is substantially lower than the general non-Indian population in the United States; and
- WHEREAS, the Federal government has a responsibility to provide the best health care possible to American Indians and Alaskan Natives; and
- WHEREAS, the Indian Health Service, which is administered through the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, has established as their goal, "To raise the health level of American Indians and Alaskan Natives to the highest possible level."; and
- WHEREAS, the Indian Health Service has joined with American Indian tribes in a partnership effort to provide the maximum amount of health care to members living on or near the reservations; and
- WHEREAS, the DHEW regulations have been changed significantly through P.L. 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, which permits Indian tribes to administer federal government programs, and
- WHEREAS, the tribal administration of federal programs has not progressed to a satisfactory level due to failure of the bureaucracy to respond to the tribal government's priorities and the intent of the Congress, and
- WHEREAS, the intent of Congress was further expressed in passage of P.L. 94-437, Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which provides the funding and mechanics for tribes to catch up with the rest of American in achievement of health levels, and
- WHEREAS, the implementing rules and regulations of this most import Act have been written and are awaiting final approval by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and

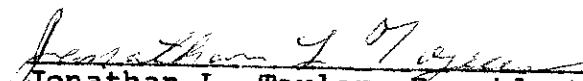
WHEREAS, the funds have already been appropriated by Congress to implement this Act, the Indian Health Service cannot commit or make obligation of funds under the various titles and sections of the Act without approved regulations, and

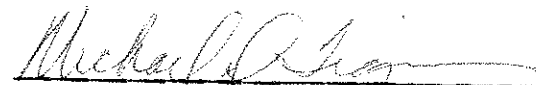
WHEREAS, the entire Act is very critical to the overall continued progress of tribal groups and the Indian Health Service, Title 1 of the Act is crucial to the immediate and long range health manpower development plans of individual tribes, of which significant delays in funding caused by administrative activities of the government will result in delay or possible termination of educational plans of Indian youth and others to pursue the vitally needed health careers,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the United Southeastern Tribes, Inc. strongly urges the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, to move forward, without undue delay, in approving the final rules and regulations governing the implementation process of P.L. 94-437, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that at a Joint Meeting of the Executive Committee - Administrative Operations Committee legally held and convened in Nashville, Tennessee, September 8 and 9, 1977, this resolution was duly adopted.


Jonathan L. Taylor, President
United Southeastern Tribes, Inc.


Michael D. Tiger, Secretary
United Southeastern Tribes, Inc.