

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. 92-11

ENDORSEMENT OF THE REPORT OF THE JOINT TRIBAL/BIA/DOI
TASK FORCE ON BIA REORGANIZATION

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty (20) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET, Inc. Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Tribal/BIA/DOI Task Force on BIA Reorganization has been in existence for slightly over a year, has produced an interim report, and in January adopted a cumulative report for submission to the Secretary of the Interior and the oversight committees of the Congress in February; and

WHEREAS, the Eastern Area is represented on the Task Force by the Tribal leaders of three USET member Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative report contains recommendations in five areas, including Guiding Principles, Budget Process, Overall Structure, Economic Development, and Performance and Attitudes, the major recommendations of which may be summarized as follows:

Guiding Principles: decentralization of authority and movement of maximum funding and authority to the lowest possible levels; restricting the Assistant Secretary's Office to policy making, and giving day-to-day administrative authority to a Commissioner and to the Director, Office of Indian Education Programs; creation of a National Advisory Board;

Budget Process: reforming the IPS and moving as many programs as possible into a new "Tribal Budget System"; establishing a standard assessment methodology to eventually assure that funding is based on need;

Overall Structure: reduction of the size of the Central Office through delegation of large numbers of authorities to the Area Office and/or Agency Office levels; full implementation of P.L. 95-561; identification of needed "BOB" administrative services, removal of remainder of Education, and a recommendation to ask for further appropriations if the resources do not cover the need for Education administration; area-by-area decisions on the favored location for facilities funding;

Economic Development: establishment of a Central Office of Economic Development; regionalization of a Credit Program; additional funding to strengthen economic development at the Agency Office level;

Performance and Attitudes: establish a system to combat negative attitudes and behaviors among BIA staff; establish a professional certification program; include Tribes in personnel appraisal process; tie pay plans to individual performance, and discipline poor performers; and

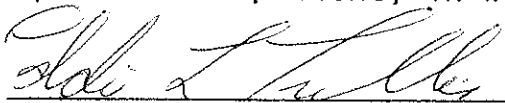
WHEREAS, the contents of the Task Force Cumulative Report were furnished in late January to the Tribal leaders of the USET member Tribes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the USET Board of Directors hereby does endorse the Cumulative Report of the BIA Reorganization Task Force; and

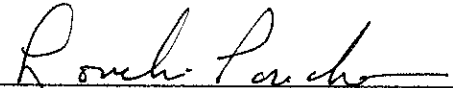
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USET Board of Directors hereby does encourage the Eastern Area representatives on the Task Force to continue to support contracting Tribes and the movement of decision making responsibility to the local level, and to encourage the Task Force to conclude its work as rapidly as possible, so that its recommendations can be implemented as soon as practicable.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Board of Directors Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC on February 27, 1992.



Eddie L. Tullis, President
United South and Eastern
Tribes, Inc.



Lovelin Poncho, Secretary
United South and Eastern
Tribes, Inc.