



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 97:57

ENDORISING AND SUPPORTING THE MICCOSUKEE RIGHTS ACT AND URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PASS THE ACT

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-three (23) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET 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 Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida has lived in the Florida Everglades for centuries, respecting the land and water as their tribal homeland; and

WHEREAS, the rights of the Miccosukee Tribe to live in their Everglades homelands within Everglades National Park have been recognized by the Congress through the Everglades National Park Enabling Act of 1934 and by the Department of the Interior through the Special Use Permit; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service in the administration of Everglades National Park has attempted to improperly diminish and restrict the recognized rights of the Miccosukee Tribe; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Miccosukee Tribe, as well as the obvious intent of the Congress and the American people, that the Miccosukee Tribe in the Special Use Permit Area be guaranteed self-government and the freedom to live, work, and govern themselves as they wish (not to be governed by the Park Service), as long as the Tribe follows federal laws (including environmental laws); therefore, be it

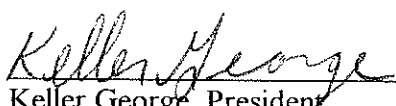
RESOLVED, that the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., supports and endorses H.R. 190 (105th Congress, 1st Session), the "Miccosukee Rights Act"; and be it further

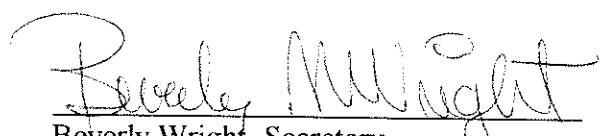
RESOLVED, that the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., urges the Secretary of the Interior, as Trustee for the Miccosukee Tribe pursuant to the Indian Trust Doctrine, to support and endorse H.R. 190 (105th Congress, 1st Session) and to aid in its passage by the Congress; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., urges the Congress of the United States to pass H.R. 190 (105th Congress, 1st Session) to fulfill original congressional intent and to fully protect the rights of the Miccosukee Tribe in the Florida Everglades.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly approved at the USET Semi-Annual meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Marksville, Louisiana on Wednesday, May 21, 1997.


Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.


Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"

Sponsors
Hastings
Meek
Diaz-Balart
Miller
(2/4/97)

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 190

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Everglades National Park in the State of Florida and for other purposes", approved May 30, 1934, to clarify certain rights of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself and Mrs. MEEK of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Everglades National Park in the State of Florida and for other purposes", approved May 30, 1934, to clarify certain rights of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.**

4 The Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establish-
5 ment of the Everglades National Park in the State of
6 Florida and for other purposes", approved May 30, 1934

1 (16 U.S.C. 410–410c), is amended by adding at the end
2 the following new sections:

3 “SEC. 5. The Miccosukee Tribe may use the Permit
4 Area in accordance with the Permit, except that—

5 “(1) condition 7 of the Permit, relating to re-
6 moval of improvements, shall not apply;

7 “(2) condition 15 of the Permit, relating to rev-
8 ocation of the Permit, shall not apply;

9 “(3) notwithstanding any condition of the Per-
10 mit, the approval of, the consent of, or a permit
11 from the Director shall not be required if the
12 Miccosukee Tribe has met all other requirements of
13 Federal law related to such approval, consent, or
14 permit; and

15 “(4) the Miccosukee Tribe may exercise juris-
16 diction over the Permit Area to the same extent as
17 the Miccosukee Tribe exercises jurisdiction over the
18 Miccosukee Indian Reservation.

19 “SEC. 6. For purposes of this Act—

20 “(1) the term ‘Director’ means the Director,
21 National Park Service, and includes the Super-
22 intendent of the Everglades National Park;

23 “(2) the term ‘Miccosukee Tribe’ means the
24 Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, a tribe of
25 American Indians recognized by the United States

1 and organized under section 16 of the Act of June
2 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 987; 25 U.S.C. 476);

3 “(3) the term ‘Permit’ means the Special Use
4 Permit issued by the National Park Service to the
5 Miccosukee Tribe, approved by the Secretary of the
6 Interior on February 1, 1973;

7 “(4) the term ‘Permit Area’ means the property
8 described in the Permit; and

9 “(5) the term ‘Seminole Indians’ includes the
10 Miccosukee Tribe.”.

○