



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 99:24

SUPPORT FOR THE RESTORATION OF DECREASES TO THE IHS BUDGET AND LIMITATION OF THE MORATORIUM ON NEW AND EXPANDED 638 CONTRACTS AND COMPACTS

- WHEREAS**, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising 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 comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS**, the fiscal year 1999 (FY99) IHS budget included an appropriations rider which implemented a one-year moratorium on new and expanded P.L. 93-638 contracts and compacts; and
- WHEREAS**, since 1975, the fundamental policy of Congress with respect to Indian Nations has been to encourage the policy of self-determination and self-governance; and
- WHEREAS**, the fiscal year 2000 (FY2000) IHS budget included \$5M and \$4.9M reductions in the Community Health Representative (CHR) and Physicians Compensation line items, respectively; and
- WHEREAS**, the CHR program is a viable and important component of each of the USET member tribes' health care delivery systems and the budget reduction will result in the elimination of approximately one CHR per USET tribal site; and
- WHEREAS**, the reduction in the Physicians Compensation line item represents a reduction to the recurring base of the IHS budget due to the fact that funds are not appropriated for this activity but paid out of existing recurring base line items from year-to-year; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors requests the one-year moratorium be lifted in the FY2000 budget process thus allowing all Indian Nations to continue to exercise their sovereign right to enter into new and/or expanded contracts and compacts under P.L. 93-638; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors requests the reductions in the CHR and Physicians Compensation line items be restored by \$5M and \$4.9M, respectively during the FY2000 budget process.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, February 4, 1999.

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

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