



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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USET Resolution No. 2001:04

### SUPPORT OF THE CLOSE UP FOUNDATION

- WHEREAS**, the United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) 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 Close Up Foundation, the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan civic education organization, has been dedicated to providing a unique, experiential learning experience for American Indian and Alaska Native students for almost thirty years; and
- WHEREAS**, the Close Up Foundation's program reaches out to under served constituencies without regard to race, economic status or ability to help them understand that the process that governs our lives requires both effort and commitment; and
- WHEREAS**, the Close Up program offers high school students direct access to public policy decision makers as well as the opportunity for them to interact with their peers from throughout the country; and
- WHEREAS**, American Indian and Alaska Native students have identified the various Close Up programs and materials as some of the most effective programs where young people can develop both political and social growth; and
- WHEREAS**, the Close Up program enhances knowledge and skills necessary to more active and informed citizenship; and
- WHEREAS**, in 1997 the Close Up Foundation in collaboration with USET developed and conducted a specifically designed program, the *American Indian Youth Summit* for USET students and tribal leaders which has become an annual program; and
- WHEREAS**, the *American Indian Youth Summit* has involved more than 320 USET students and teachers and many tribal leaders during the past three years; and
- WHEREAS**, the American Indian Youth Summit places strong emphasis on participants identifying local and tribal needs and developing community action plans to provide locally based solutions; and
- WHEREAS**, the Close Up Foundation is seeking support to continue its work with and develop new programs for American Indian and Alaska Native students; and
- WHEREAS**, the Close Up Foundation is seeking talented American Indian individuals as staff to work with all types of students and teachers; and
- WHEREAS**, the Close Up Foundation is seeking support from Indian country to provide speakers as role models when the students are in Washington, D.C.; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors pledge their support for the Close Up Program and the opportunity it provides for American Indian and Alaska Native students; be it further

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*

**RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors calls on all its members to take necessary action to support full participation by eligible American Indian students in current and future Close Up programs; be it further

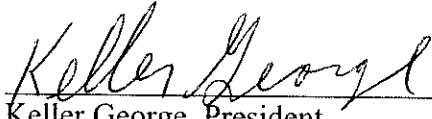
**RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors appoints the Education Committee to act as liaison to Close Up; be it further

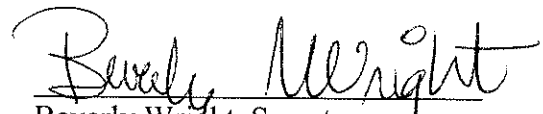
**RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors calls on all its members to continue to work with Close Up and to encourage financial support from the business and corporate sector to expand participation by American Indian and Alaska Native students in Close Up programs; be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors hereby proclaims its strong support for the Close Up Foundation's program for American Indians and Alaska Natives, and pledge to encourage all of its members to take any and all actions necessary to demonstrate this support to ensure participation by American Indian and Alaska Native students.

#### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly approved at the USET Annual Board Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, New York Thursday, November 2, 2000.

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

  
Beverly Wright, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes Inc.