



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2002:068

FORMAL REQUEST FOR A RESTRUCTURING ACTION PLAN FROM INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE- NASHVILLE AREA OFFICE

- WHEREAS,** 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 comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** since the mid 1990's, the Indian Health Service (IHS)-Nashville Area Office (NAO), tribes and USET have been working together to re-design the NAO to better fit the needs of each member tribe and use insufficient funds more effectively; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1996, the tribes developed a "Tribal Model" to give direction to the NAO as they began their redesign process; and
- WHEREAS,** in response to the "Tribal Model" the NAO conducted a reduction-in-force (RIF) in an attempt to meet the needs as identified by the tribes, however due in-part to federal personnel policies the redesigned office still did not meet tribal needs; and
- WHEREAS,** the IHS appropriations continue to fall short of actual need and tribes are forced to explore alternative and more cost effective methods to fund their healthcare delivery systems and provide quality services to their tribal members, and
- WHEREAS,** the NAO is operating in the same insufficient funding environment as the tribes they serve and should also explore more cost effective methods for provision of services while not losing sight of tribal needs and priorities, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors formally requests that the NAO Director provide a detailed action plan that meets the needs and priorities as identified by tribes during the USET Health Committee special session that took place December 3-5, 2001, in Nashville, TN, and continuing discussions during the 2002 USET Impact Week Meeting; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors formally requests that the detailed action plan be provided to the USET Tribal Leaders, Health Committee members, and the USET Health Information Officer by May 28, 2002.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C., Thursday, January 31, 2002.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"