



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

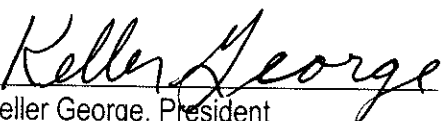
USET Resolution No. 2002:093

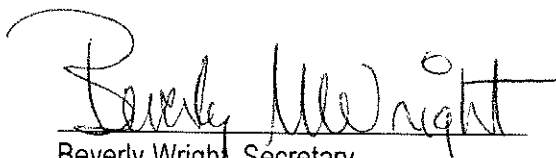
ENDORSEMENT OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2004 INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS) NEEDS BASED BUDGET AND \$1 BILLION INCREASE RECOMMENDED BY SENATOR DASCHLE

- 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 at least 1975 the fundamental policy of Congress with respect to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) tribes/villages has been to encourage the policy of self-determination and self-governance; and
- WHEREAS,** this policy intends to transfer effective control and operation of programs previously controlled and operated by the federal government for the benefit of AI/AN people; and
- WHEREAS,** tribal governments are locally based and therefore are in the best position to know the needs of the AI/AN people; and
- WHEREAS,** an \$18 billion Indian Health Service FY 2004 budget submission has been developed in consultation with tribal governments; and
- WHEREAS,** this is the fourth year that AI/AN tribal governments have sent forward the \$18 billion needs based request to no avail; and
- WHEREAS,** Senator Daschle (D-SD) has recommended a \$1 billion increase to the fiscal year 2003 IHS appropriation over and above the enacted fiscal year 2002 IHS appropriation; and
- WHEREAS,** the needs based budget and \$1 billion increase have been endorsed by the National Indian Health Board, National Congress of American Indians, Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee and National Council on Urban Indians, and has been presented to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB); therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors endorses the \$18 billion FY 2004 IHS needs based budget and the initial increase of \$1 billion recommended by Senator Daschle, and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors strongly encourages the Administration, Congress, the DHHS, and OMB to recognize the need for this budget to raise the health status of AI/AN people and achieve the goal of eliminating racial disparities in health care.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, TN, Thursday, June 13, 2002.


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


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

“Because there is strength in Unity”