



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2003:099

REQUEST INCREASE IN FEDERAL INDIAN SCHOOL EQUALIZATION PROGRAM FUNDING

- 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,** USET member tribes have a compelling interest in the schools and educational programs provided to the member tribes' youth; and
- WHEREAS,** the primary financial support for schools funded through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Indian Education Programs is the Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP); and
- WHEREAS,** the annual amount of funding available through ISEP consistently falls short of meeting the educational programming needs of the tribal and BIA schools; and
- WHEREAS,** the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" has placed increased financial burdens upon tribal and BIA schools in meeting the Act's requirements for assessment, high quality staff, and high quality curriculum; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors strongly urges the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U. S. Congress to significantly increase the level of funding appropriated to the ISEP funding program to enable more effective educational programs in tribal and BIA schools and to ensure the ability to comply with the standards of the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001."

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET 2003 Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Choctaw, MS, Thursday, June 5, 2003.

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

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