



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

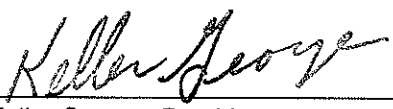
USET Resolution No. 2006:046

SUPPORT FOR THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT


- 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,** the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) has since 1976 provided a detailed structure for addressing the health care needs of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people in a manner consistent with the federal responsibility; and
- WHEREAS,** the IHCIA was last reauthorized in 1992 and the current authorization for appropriations in the Act expired on September 30, 2000; and
- WHEREAS,** the S1057 was substantially changed to reflect concerns from the Administration and was reported out of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs; a similar bill is being drafted by House Legislative Counsel and is expected to be introduced by Congressman Young (R-Alaska); and
- WHEREAS,** although the Administration expressed support for the bill, their last minute concerns stalled the bill and it was declared dead at the end of the 108th Congressional session; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal Governments have made significant concessions during the seven-year process of attempting to obtain Reauthorization of the IHCIA, but steadfastly refuse to retract from current and/or existing law; and
- WHEREAS,** reauthorization of the IHCIA is essential to maintaining the federal policy of raising the health status of AI/AN people to the highest possible level; and
- WHEREAS,** the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, Mr. Claude Allen, the Chairman for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Mr. John McCain, and a long standing member of the House Native American Caucus, Mr. Patrick Kennedy, have expressed support for the passage of an IHCIA bill on behalf of the Administration and Congress, respectively; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the introduction, passage and enactment of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act legislation.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 9, 2006.



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



Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.