



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2007:044

SUPPORT FOR THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

- 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 USET member Tribes are dedicated and committed to the needs of its members including the stability and well-being of our Indian children; and
- WHEREAS, the Indian Health Service (IHS) is not adequately funded to cover all health care costs for Indian Tribes and their members; and
- WHEREAS, a vast majority of Tribal families across Indian Country fall into the national poverty level and can't afford to contribute to health care costs; and
- WHEREAS, the Social Security Act of 1997 was amended to include the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) at an amount of \$40 billion dollars for a ten year period and has since provided health insurance coverage to all enrolled low income children who are not Medicaid eligible; and
- WHEREAS, there are currently 4 million low income children across the United States (U.S.) who have been enrolled into SCHIP; and
- WHEREAS, the loss of this program would severely impact the health care of children across the Nation, specifically within our Indian communities; and
- WHEREAS, reauthorizing the SCHIP at a level of \$15 billion for the next five years is needed to cover all currently enrolled children; however, an increase of \$50 billion for the next five years would be needed to cover all eligible children; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors supports the reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program at a level of \$50 billion for five years.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 15, 2007.

Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Cheryl Downing, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"