



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2007:047

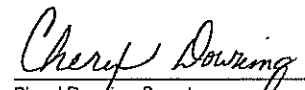
**SUPPORT FOR MAKING FEDERAL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEM AVAILABLE TO ALL FEDERALLY
RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS**

- 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,** Tribes have a limited number of employees and are unable to secure competitive pricing for fringe benefits including, but not limited to, health, dental, vision and life insurance(s); and
- WHEREAS,** since the creation of contracted/compact programs developed/operated in accordance with P.L. 93-638 the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), many Tribal employees do not receive benefits similar to those received by Federal employees, who carry out the same responsibilities at each reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal employees should be afforded the opportunity to elect to participate and enroll in the Federal Employee Benefits program, and
- WHEREAS,** because of the increase in numbers participating in the benefit program the costs to Tribal programs would be competitive and ultimately may be reduced; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests that the Secretary of the Interior work with the Office of Personnel Management to explore the possibility of opening the Federal Employee Benefit program to all Tribal Governments and their employees, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests that any work completed toward the goal of opening the Federal Employee Benefit program to Tribal employees be completed in consultation with Tribal Governments.

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 Dowling, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"