



USET

SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION FUND

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USET SPF Resolution No. 2020 SPF:011

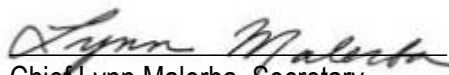
SUPPORT FOR THE CONFIRMATION OF REAR ADMIRAL MICHAEL D. WEAHKEE AS DIRECTOR OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an intertribal organization comprised of thirty (30) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET SPF Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nations' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the Indian Health Service (IHS) is obligated to provide healthcare services to American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) in fulfillment of the federal government's trust responsibility; and
- WHEREAS,** throughout his career, Rear Admiral Michael D. Weahkee, a citizen of the Pueblo of Zuni, has been a commendable advocate for AI/ANs and ensuring our people have access to quality healthcare; and
- WHEREAS,** beginning in June 2017, Rear Admiral Weahkee served as Acting IHS Director for a year before assuming his current role as IHS Principal Deputy Director; and
- WHEREAS,** on October 22, 2019, Rear Adm. Weahkee was formally nominated by President Donald J. Trump to be permanent IHS Director; and
- WHEREAS,** IHS has lacked permanent leadership since 2015; and
- WHEREAS,** in December 2010, the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET SPF Board of Directors supports the appointment of Rear Admiral Michael D. Weahkee as permanent Director of the Indian Health Service; and be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET SPF Board of Directors requests expeditious Senate confirmation of Rear Admiral Michael D. Weahkee as permanent Director of the Indian Health Service.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET SPF Annual Meeting held on the Sovereign Territory of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians at which a quorum was present on November 7, 2019.


Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund


Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund

Because there is Strength in Unity