WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) 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, adequate funding for Indian Tribal and Urban Health programs is essential to the health, social and economic well being of Tribal communities; and

WHEREAS, the USET Health Committee has identified the following Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 and 2014 funding priorities to support the advancement of Indian Health Programs within the Indian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area:

- Hold harmless IHS Budget increases from FYs 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 from recessions and/or Proposed Budget Cuts
- Contract Health Service Program
- Contract Support Costs; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a special trust responsibility to Indian Tribes that is confirmed through various treaties and executive orders; and

WHEREAS, this special relationship must be considered when analyzing budget priorities in adherence to the President’s sound fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction efforts; and

WHEREAS, any reduction in the IHS budget would equate to a drastic reduction to already severely underfunded Indian health care programs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors calls for the exemption of all Indian programs from any mandatory budget reduction imposed for Fiscal Year 2013 and beyond; and, be it further

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors respectfully requests the U.S. Congress to support the identified funding priorities to advance the Indian Health Programs within the Indian Health Service Nashville Area.
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Choctaw, MS, on Thursday, November 10, 2011.

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

Brenda Lintinger, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

“Because there is strength in Unity”