



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 97:27

**ENDORISING AND SUPPORTING THE MICCOSUKEE RIGHTS ACT AND
URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PASS THE ACT**

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-three (23) 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 is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida has lived in the Florida Everglades for centuries, respecting the land and water as their tribal homelands; and

WHEREAS, the rights of the Miccosukee Tribe to live in their Everglades homelands within Everglades National Park have been recognized by the Congress through the Everglades National Park Enabling Act of 1934 and by the Department of the Interior through the Special Use Permit; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service in the administration of Everglades National Park has attempted to improperly diminish and restrict the recognized rights of the Miccosukee Tribe; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Miccosukee Tribe, as well as the obvious intent of the Congress and the American people, that the Miccosukee Tribe in the Special Use Permit Area be guaranteed self-government and the freedom to live, work, and govern themselves as they wish (not to be governed by the Park Service), as long as the Tribe follows federal laws (including environmental laws); and

WHEREAS, the "Miccosukee Rights Act", H.R. 190 (105th Congress, 1st Session) has been prepared to preserve and protect the rights of the Miccosukee Tribe in the permit area of Everglades National Park; therefore, be it

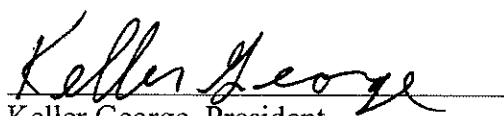
RESOLVED, that United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., supports and endorses H.R. 190 (105th Congress, 1st Session), the "Miccosukee Rights Act"; and be it further

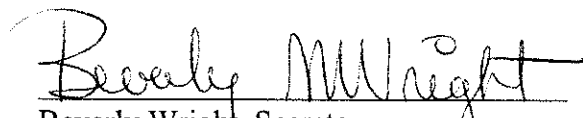
RESOLVED, that United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., urges the Secretary of the Interior, as Trustee for the Miccosukee Tribe pursuant to the Indian Trust Doctrine, to support and endorse H.R. 190 (105th Congress, 1st Session) and to aid in its passage by the Congress; and be it further

RESOLVED, that United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., urges the Congress of the United States to pass H.R. 190 (105th Congress, 1st Session) to fulfill original congressional intent and to fully protect the rights of the Miccosukee Tribe in the Florida Everglades.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly approved at the USET Washington Impact Week meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC on Wednesday, February 5, 1997.


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


Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"