AUTHORIZATION FOR THE UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES TO DEVELOP AND SUBMIT A GRANT PROPOSAL ON BEHALF OF THOSE MEMBER TRIBES THAT ELECT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM FOR INDIANS CONSOLIDATED GRANT APPLICATION

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, the United States (U.S.) Government and each federally recognized Indian Tribe has a government-to-government relationship grounded in numerous historical, political, legal, moral, and ethical considerations that promised healthcare in exchange for the ceding of land; and

WHEREAS, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) peoples carry the heaviest burden of diabetes in the U.S., suffering from the highest rates of diabetes in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Tribes within the Indian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area have some of the highest diabetes prevalence rates in the country at a level of 21% as compared with the general U.S. population at 9.3%; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is one of the leading causes of death for AI/AN people, with a mortality rate that’s four times higher than the U.S. general population; and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to address the high rates of diabetes within Tribal communities, Congress, in 1997, authorized the IHS to develop and implement the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI); and

WHEREAS, since 1997, Congress has reauthorized the SDPI a number of times and increased funding throughout the years to the $150 million per year that the IHS receives today; and

WHEREAS, the SDPI has been very successful and results from the program offer hope for prevention since there is still no cure for diabetes; and

WHEREAS, as a directive from member Tribes, USET has been the primary applicant of the SDPI funds on behalf of its member Tribes, in an effort to competitively compete with some of the larger Tribes within Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, a new competitive funding cycle is set to commence in 2015 in accordance with IHS Division of Grants Office policies; 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 Board of Directors supports and authorizes the USET Tribal Health Program Support Department to develop and submit a grant proposal on behalf of those member Tribes that elect to participate in the Special Diabetes Program for Indians consolidated grant application.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Mashantucket, CT, May 20, 2015.

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

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

“Because there is strength in Unity”