UNITED SOUTHEASTERN TRIBES, INC.

RESOLUTION NO: 75-12

RE: INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT.

WHEREAS, S.2938, an Indian Health Care Improvement Bill was passed by the Senate on November 25, 1974, and was referred to the House of Representatives where the measure died due to House failure to consider the Bill; and

WHEREAS, The Senate Hearings and report on the Indian Health Care Improvement Bill showed a dramatic and urgent need for improved health care services, delivery of services and health care facilities; and

WHEREAS, Health Care Services delivery and adequacy of facilities for serving Indian health needs are falling behind the needs at a rapidly increased rate; and

WHEREAS, Congress' failure to pass the Health Care Improvement Act during the 93rd Congress has left Indian people in substantial confusion as to how to deal with the enormous health needs facing them; and

WHEREAS, Indian people throughout the country are unified in their recognition of unmet health needs and desire to have these health needs met, and feel that passage of a comprehensive health care bill during the 94th Congress is urgently needed and that failure to pass such a bill would have tragic consequences,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED United Southeastern Tribes, Inc., urges Congress to pass a Comprehensive Indian Health Care Bill during the early part of the 94th Congress, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Comprehensive Health Care Bill, as passed by Congress should include the following which United Southeastern Tribes, Inc., considers in order for a Comprehensive Indian Health Care Bill to serve its purpose:

1. That the Bill should be of high quality

2. That the rights and needs of Indian people be specifically recognized and that the federal government trust responsibility be specifically stated in the Act

3. That Indian control of programs and accountability to Indian people be provided for

4. That the recruitment program of the Bill be expanded to include both professions and careers

5. That the Indian Allied Health Provisions clearly encompass workers in the field of substance abuse and that workers in substance abuse be included in the various training programs
6. That the financial support for medical students be adequate to the changing needs

7. That Mental Health Programs be included in the Act

8. That sufficient funds be provided for Alcoholism Programs so that a transition from NIAAA to IHS will not require a cut back of any programs.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the United Southeastern Tribes, Inc., properly convened and held in Nashville, Tennessee, May 21 - 23, 1975, the above resolution was duly adopted.

HOWARD E. TOMMIE, President
United Southeastern Tribes, Inc.
Seminole Tribe of Florida

ERNEST SICKEY, Secretary
United Southeastern Tribes, Inc.
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana