

UNITED SOUTHEASTERN TRIBES, INC.

RESOLUTION NO: 75 - 18


RE: NEW MEXICO INDIAN EDUCATION BOARD OF REGENTS

WHEREAS: The funding level of Johnson O'Malley programs nationwide to date has not yet changed to reflect the more important role Johnson O'Malley now plays under tribal control, in fact with expanded eligibility and growth of tribal contracts the nationwide funding level has gone down slightly over the past few years.

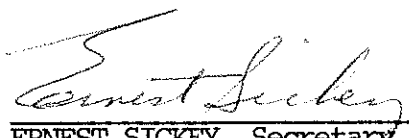
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that United Southeastern Tribes would like to go on record in full support of the position stating that Johnson O'Malley funding levels shall be increased from the existing level of \$28,000,000.00 to expand or increase to the level of \$55,000,000.00 to properly reflect the cost of meeting the specific educational needs of Indian children.

CERTIFICATION

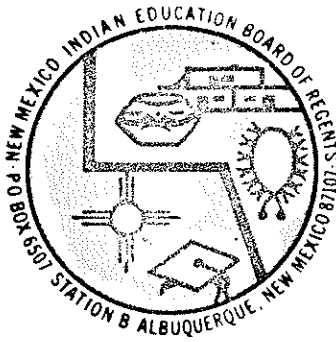
This is to certify that a regular meeting of the USET Board of Directors properly convened and held in Nashville, Tennessee, December 8-9, 1975, the above resolution was duly adopted by a unanimous vote.



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



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



NEW MEXICO INDIAN EDUCATION BOARD OF REGENTS

PHONE (505) 243-7781

December 6, 1975

Eugene A. Begay
South Eastern Tribes
1101 Kermit Drive
Nashville, Tennessee

Gentlemen:

Attached, you will find the New Mexico Indian Education Board of Regents resolution.

The resolution is concerned with two main topics relating to the Johnson O'Malley Programs which are:

1. Formula - no contractor would be reduced from FY 1975 levels of Johnson O'Malley funding; any new money would go to raise the per capita allocations to a minimum of \$250/per student served.
2. Funding - to properly fund programs to meet existing needs of Indian students. The appropriation level, nationally, must rise from \$28 million (present level) to \$55 million. This would allow tribes to meet the special educational needs of their students more properly.

The Board of Regents in conjunction with the 25 tribes in the Albuquerque area are seeking tribal support nationwide on these two matters.

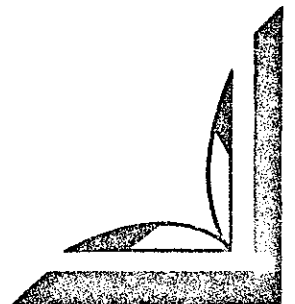
We are in hope that the South Eastern Tribes will consider the purposal funding formula. We appreciate any support that you can give to our Board of Regents.

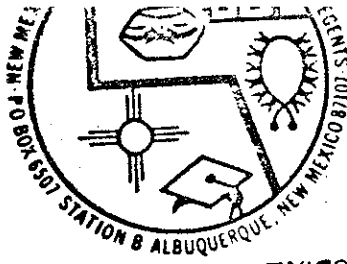
Sincerely,

Gilbert Lucero
Executive Director

GL/jd

Attachment





NEW MEXICO INDIAN EDUCATION BOARD OF REGENTS

RESOLUTION

The following resolution was considered and unanimously adopted by the New Mexico Indian Education Board of Regents at its regular scheduled meeting held on October 14, 1975, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with 4 members voting for, and 0 members voting against. With 4 members present and 2 members absent.

WHEREAS, the Johnson O'Malley Act was passed in 1934 and tribes have been aware of its purpose since early 1960's but more so in the present years due to the recent changes in the regulations (which provides for more tribal control and involvement), and

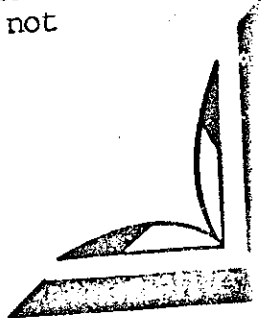
WHEREAS, the use of Johnson O'Malley Act funds for Indian education programs has been an important and growing priority in Indian communities around the country in recent years, and

WHEREAS, many aspects of Indian self-determination, especially local parental involvement and tribal control in the education process have been developed as a result of this interest, and the worth of the concepts proved through tribal contracts to administer Johnson O'Malley programs or through development of local Indian education committees, and

WHEREAS, ¹ the funding level of Johnson O'Malley programs nationwide to date has not yet changed to reflect the more important role Johnson O'Malley now plays under tribal control, in fact with expanded eligibility and growth of tribal contracts the nationwide funding level has gone down slightly over the past few years, and

WHEREAS, ² the attempt made by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to implement a new allocation formula which would provide "substantial equality", to students in different areas, as called for in the new regulations, has had the effect of injuring many programs,

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Indian Education Board of Regents has in the course of its four years as an administrator of an inter-tribal Johnson O'Malley contract developed an approach to equalization which helps districts, with low Johnson O'Malley allocations, but not at the expense of existing programs, and



WHEREAS, the Board of Regents had discussed increased funding with the Bureau and other federal officials at the national level, and obtained commitments to support the tribal wishes in this area.

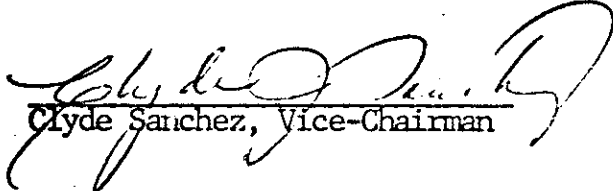
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, 1. that the Board go on record supporting an increase of Johnson O'Malley allocation nationwide from its current level of \$28 million to a new expanded or increasing level of \$55 million to properly reflect the cost of meeting the special educational needs of Indian children, and

2. that the Indian tribes across the country be asked to support this effort to confront the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other government agencies as needed to implement this new level, and

3. that the funds be allocated in accordance with the formula proposed by the Board of Regents and the new Johnson O'Malley regulations, and

4. that the increase come from new funds and not be taken away from any existing Indian programs, and

5. that this new level go into effect during the upcoming fiscal year, if at all possible.


Clyde Sanchez, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:


Gilbert Lucero, Executive Director