WHEREAS, Bureau of Indian Affairs has certain responsibilities to Indian Tribes through Treaty Rights and Executive Orders (called Trust Responsibilities); and

WHEREAS, Evolving from these Trust Responsibilities are other programs that have to be implemented in order to comply with the orders; and

WHEREAS, Bureau of Indian Affairs has in the past labeled these programs such as "Band Analysis", Zero Base Budgeting, and now Indian Priority System List and Bureau of Indian Affairs is responsible for funding these programs fully; and

WHEREAS, Some tribes are experiencing some shortfalls in their local Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency in such programs as Realty Services, Law and Order, and Self-Determination services; and

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Indian Affairs, without consultation with affected tribes, has unilaterally defunded the budget line requests for Indian Self-Determination grants as reflected in the Indian Priority System of the affected tribes and unilaterally rebudgeted such funds to fund Bureau of Indian Affairs budget shortfalls in other programs; and

WHEREAS, The United South and Eastern Tribes strongly feel that the Indian Self-Determination grants are critical to the support and development of strong and stable tribal government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the United South and Eastern Tribes Executive Board requests the Bureau of Indian Affairs to cease and desist in its practice of defunding the prioritized Self-Determination grant requests of tribes without prior consultation with and concurrence from the affected tribe.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT United South and Eastern Tribes Executive Board officially request that Ross Swimmer carry out total responsibilities of the Bureau of Indian Affairs programs as they are prioritized by each Tribe and that he secure the necessary funding to fund each program and that line item not be changed without proper consultation with all Tribes.
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Semi-Annual Board Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Tampa, Florida; December 16 through December 18, 1986.

Joel M. Frank
President
United South and Eastern Tribes

Julius Herne
Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes