WHEREAS, both the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service are proposing to abandon the method mandated by the Office Management and Budget in OMB Circular A-87 for the calculation and negotiation of indirect costs in favor of, for BIA, a flat 15 percent administrative fee, and, for IHS, of inclusion of a 14 percent administrative module as a part of the SURAM process; and

WHEREAS, considerable money and time have been spent on the process of planning for the abandonment of indirect costs, especially on the part of IHS; and

WHEREAS, there has been no discussion of abandonment of indirect costs with regard to non-profit agencies, educational institutions, or local and state governments, and these moves appear to be limited to the two agencies having primary trust responsibility for Indian tribes, making these moves arbitrary, capricious, and discriminatory against Indian tribal governments as compared to other governments and institutions; and

WHEREAS, in the 99th Congress H.R. 4174, a bill which would have amended the Indian Self-Determination Act and would have considerably clarified issues surrounding contract support costs and administrative costs, passed the House of Representatives but was not considered by the Senate; and

WHEREAS, it is certain that a modified version of H.R. 4174 will be introduced in each house in the 100th Congress, which, if enacted, would no doubt prevent both the BIA and IHS from implementing their administrative cost plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of the United South and Eastern Tribes hereby petitions the Bureau of Indian Affairs not to write any proposed regulations establishing a fixed administrative fee, the Indian Health Service not to promulgate the proposed administrative module under SURAM, and both agencies to return to the OMB-mandated method for the calculation and negotiation of indirect costs.
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at a United South and Eastern Tribes Board of Directors meeting held at Tampa, Florida, December 16 through December 18, 1986, at which a quorum was present.

Joel M. Frank
President
United South and Eastern Tribes

Julius Herne
Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes