

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.  
RESOLUTION 180

WHEREAS, the member tribes of the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) engage in a very high level of P.L. 93-638 contracting to administer Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) programs and services; and

WHEREAS, all of the USET member tribes have negotiated indirect cost rates in compliance with OMB Circular A-87 to cover their costs of administering such contracts with the BIA; and

WHEREAS, BIA officials have advised that they intend to supplant each negotiated indirect cost rate with a flat administrative cost payment to tribes of 15 percent of the total contracted dollar amount excluding pass through funds; and

WHEREAS, the USET member tribes find that the proposed 15 percent administrative fee of the BIA:

- is ill conceived and proposed without proper consultation with Indian tribes;
- based upon the findings of an outdated and questionable study by the American Indian Law Center;
- will result in inadequate payment to tribes to cover the costs of contract administration resulting in tribes incurring large deficits and retroceding contracted programs back to the BIA which in turn will frustrate self-determination and increase reservation unemployment;
- is in violation of Section 106(h) of P.L. 93-638;
- fails to consider the varying contract support costs of the respective tribes and regions of the country; and
- has no rational basis other than administrative simplicity and budget reductions; and

WHEREAS, there has been no demonstrated pattern or practice of abuse by tribes in negotiating their indirect cost rates;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the member tribes of USET strongly urge Congress to block any and all efforts of the BIA to implement their proposed 15 percent administrative cost proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the BIA be Congressionally directed to provide contract support to tribes based upon their negotiated cost rates.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Indirect Cost Meeting, March 11, 1987, in Washington, D.C., at which a quorum was present.

  
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President  
United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc.

  
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Secretary  
United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc.