RESOLUTION No. B-88-202

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. represents seventeen federally recognized tribes in the South and Eastern United States, and

WHEREAS, tribal input is not being requested ir developing funding requirements for the Federal budget, and distribution of funds based on the Indian School Equalization Program (School operation funds or ISEP) and other formulas do not recognize the actual needs or the cost of providing a quality education, and

WHEREAS, School Improvement legislation has been passed or is being considered in most states; the effect of such legislation being to greatly increase the cost of operating public schools, and

WHEREAS, BIA schools are required to provide education of comparable quality to public schools, but has not addressed the cost of school improvement and ISEP budgets historically have not kept pace with increases in cost to provide a quality education, and

WHEREAS, the BIA has not solicited local input in determining the full cost of meeting standards comparable to public schools, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the USET board insist that the Congress or its designee conduct a study of tribal needs as seen by tribal leaders to determine the cost of providing a quality education for Indian People. Such a study is to be used as a basis to develop a more realistic Federal budget request to insure that BIA and contract schools are adequately funded, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USET board contract from the Eastern area the function of preparation of Federal Budget requests, thus greatly improving the Federal budget process.

CERTIFICATION

The above resolution was passed at the Annual Board meeting in Miami, FL, December 12-16, 1988, at which a quorum was present.

Joel Frank, President

Harold Tarbell, Secretary