UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. B-89-239

RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGES IN THE RENT CALCULATION FORMULA OF THE INDIAN HOUSING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the current rent calculation formula for participation in the federally subsidized Indian Housing Program results in insufficient income remaining from which to support a family; and

WHEREAS, this situation is a result of the constantly eroded spendable income of limited and very low income families, especially resulting from the extremely high inflation of the 1970's; and

WHEREAS, the result has been that families must maintain rent payments at the expense of being deprived of other family essentials, which leads one to question whether the housing program is assistance or a burden to very low and fixed income families; and

WHEREAS, an Indian family that cannot afford subsidized housing has no other alternative housing available, which necessitates specific and differing deductions to income from those utilized in the Public Housing Program,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the USET Board recommends the following changes be incorporated into the rent calculation formula of the Indian Housing Program:

1. Increase the individual deduction for the determination of adjusted income to $1,950 per household member, as per the Internal Revenue Service regulations.

2. Income of elderly participants be frozen upon entry and abolish recertification unless a reduction in income is evident.

3. Reduce the percentage of income paid for rent from 30 percent to 20 percent.

4. Make provision for additional deductions under special circumstances, such as when a reservation resident works and is taxed in both the U.S. and Canada, or when a reservation resident temporarily works off the reservation and must support two households.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Board of Directors meeting at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, Tennessee; July 27, 1989.

Joel M. Frank, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Harold Tarbell, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.