REQUEST FOR SECRETARY OF EDUCATION TO INVOLVE INDIAN EDUCATORS IN THE INDIAN NATIONS AT RISK STUDY

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of 18 federally-recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lauro Cavazos, Secretary of the Department of Education, has initiated an "Indian Nations at Risk" study to determine the conditions existing in Indian Education and recommend actions to improve the quality of Indian Education in America; and

WHEREAS, this study stands to have tremendous impact on funding and quality of Indian education programs, and should thereby include strong Indian input; and

WHEREAS, the position announcement for the Coordinator of this study was not made public by the Department of Education until NACIE intervened to ensure that the announcement was made available to the Indian Education community and requested an extension to its deadline; and

WHEREAS, the National Advisory Council on Indian Education has not been included in any area of the Indian Nations at Risk study, and the aforementioned action implied that the direction of the study from its onset was to exclude Indian input,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the USET Board contact the Secretary of Education to express our concern that Indian educators must be involved in the Indian Nations at Risk study from beginning to end, and that Indian educators should have been notified of the Coordinator position announcement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the USET Board support the NACIE Board and Executive Director in ensuring continued Indian Educator's input and involvement in this study.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC; March 8, 1990.

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

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