REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO SCHEDULE A REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN THE EASTERN AREA TO PROVIDE TRIBAL INPUT FOR INDIAN EDUCATION INITIATIVES

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

WHEREAS, the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior has developed an Indian Education initiative aimed at raising the educational achievement level of Indian children to national norms by the Year 2000; and

WHEREAS, a part of this process includes a series of regional conferences to identify successful education programs and assess activities which will result in successful programs; and

WHEREAS, the three conferences which have been scheduled are all being held West of the Mississippi with no announced plans to hold any such conferences in the East; and

WHEREAS, the USET members are thereby omitted from having input, with the implication being that tribes in the East either have no successful education programs or that these tribes' input is not important; and

WHEREAS, the USET Education Committee sees a strong need to be included in these regional conferences,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the USET Board urge the Assistant Secretary to schedule a regional conference in the Eastern Area which can provide tribal input for the education initiative from USET member tribes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the USET Board charge the Assistant Secretary to ensure Eastern area inclusion in future initiatives which effect Indian people on an equal basis as the Western tribes are afforded.

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.