UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. 94-14-DC

INDIAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty one (21) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET, Inc. Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Technical Assistance Centers (ITAC’s) provided for under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) have long provided technical support and assistance to grantee tribes receiving Indian Education funds; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wording and budget request for the reauthorization of the ESEA does not include the ITAC’s, and proposes instead a new category for funding such services through State Educational Agencies; and

WHEREAS, many tribes’ relationships with state educational agencies are tenuous and/or negative, and funding technical assistance through these agencies could adversely impact tribes by not providing the services appropriately with funding provided; and

WHEREAS, states are ill-equipped and ill-trained to provide the precise and comprehensive technical assistance required for implementing ESEA programs, for which the present ITAC’s are trained and qualified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the USET, Inc Board of Directors oppose the proposed elimination of Indian Technical Assistance Centers under the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The USET Board of Directors requests that the authority for and funding of these centers be retained in the budget request and reauthorization of the act; and

"Because there is strength in Unity"
USET RESOLUTION 94-14-DC

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USET Board of Directors protests the reauthorization proposal of channelling funds into State Educational Agencies as an alternative to the existing Indian Technical Assistance Centers.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Annual Board meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C., on February 24, 1994.

Eddie L. Tullis, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Keller George, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.