



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.  
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**UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.**

Resolution No. 05/95-08LA

**RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE PROPOSED 1995-1996 BUDGET CUTS IN  
BIA EDUCATION**

- 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 Bureau of Indian Affairs provides essential education services to Indian tribes, thereby fulfilling trust responsibilities established in over 400 treaties since the 1700's; and
- WHEREAS,** Congress has passed laws such as Goals 2000 and the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 to improve local educational services provided to Indian children; and
- WHEREAS,** these services include, but are not limited to direct funding of Indian elementary and secondary schools (ISEP), Johnson O'Malley, Adult Education, Higher Education, Special Education, Chapter I, Talented and Gifted Education and Drug Education; and
- WHEREAS,** the BIA has been the primary source of educational services for Indian tribes for more than 100 years; and
- WHEREAS,** Congress is proposing cuts to these programs ranging between 10 and 20 percent; and
- WHEREAS,** the proposed budget cuts would adversely affect the schools' ability to provide students with the strong cultural links grounded in the community's philosophy, values, and language; and

*"Because there is strength in Unity"*

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**WHEREAS,** no other educational services are available to meet the specific needs of Indian children; and

**WHEREAS,** a 20 percent reduction will force many schools to close or reduce the number of grades served and others to lose accreditation because of their failure to meet required curriculum and service standards; and

**WHEREAS,** the closure or the reduction of services in Indian schools will cause an influx of Indian children into local public schools; and

**WHEREAS,** public schools lack the capacity to absorb the large number of Indian students and would be forced to build new facilities and hire additional staff without additional funding; and

**WHEREAS,** the lack of federal funding for Indian children would likely result in increased drop out rates and increased illiteracy among Indian children,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the United South and Eastern Tribes will neither endorse nor accept any reduction in funding to any BIA education programs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that USET requests this resolution be forwarded to both the BIA's Office of Indian Education Programs and Congressional Appropriation Committees.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the Board of Directors meeting at which a quorum was present, in Lafayette, LA, June 1, 1995.



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



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