



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

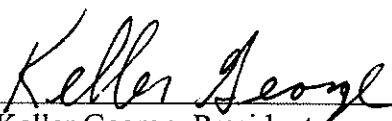
Resolution No. USET 97:26

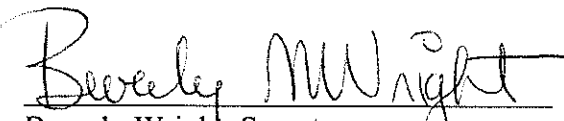
ENDORISING AND SUPPORTING THE MICCOSUKEE SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1997 AND URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PASS THE ACT

- WHEREAS**, the United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-three (23) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS**, the actions taken by the USET 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**, there is pending before the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida a lawsuit by the Miccosukee Tribe which involves the taking of certain tribal lands in connection with the construction of Interstate 75 by the Florida Department of Transportation; and
- WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Transportation, with the concurrence of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvements Trust Fund of the State of Florida, and the Miccosukee Tribe have executed an agreement for the purpose of resolving the dispute and settling the lawsuit, which agreement requires consent of the Congress of the United States in connection with contemplated land transfers; and
- WHEREAS**, the Settlement Agreement is in the interests of the Miccosukee Tribe in that the Tribe will receive certain monetary payments, new reservation lands to be held in trust by the United States, and other benefits; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED**, that United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., supports and endorses the Settlement Agreement between the Florida Department of Transportation and the Miccosukee Tribe; and be it further
- RESOLVED**, that United South and Eastern Tribes Inc., urges the Secretary of the Interior, as Trustee for the Miccosukee Tribe pursuant to the Indian Trust Doctrine, to aid and assist in the fulfillment of the Settlement Agreement at all times and in all reasonable manner, and cooperate with and assist the Miccosukee Tribe for this purpose; and be it further
- RESOLVED**, that United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., urges the Congress of the United States to pass the "Miccosukee Settlement Act of 1997" Act to implement the Settlement Agreement and to provide authority and assurance that land received in consideration of the loss of Miccosukee lands will be received by the United States in trust for the use and benefit of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida as Miccosukee Indian Reservation lands.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly approved at the USET Washington Impact Week meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC on Wednesday, February 5, 1997.


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


Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"