SUPPORT FOR EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING HEALTH INFORMATION OFFICE PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising 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 comprises delegates from the member tribes’ leadership; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) as amended a federally recognized tribe can exercise their right to assume the planning, operation, and administration of programs, services, functions and activities (PSFAs) from the Indian Health Service (IHS), and

WHEREAS, the ISDEAA as amended, authorizes the IHS to enter into contracts with Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and

WHEREAS, the USET Board of Directors acknowledges that the funds designated for the Health Information Office (HIO) program are funds identified and allocated to the individual tribes through the non-residual tribal shares process; and

WHEREAS, USET wishes to expand the current HIO contract with the IHS under the authority of ISDEAA to provide additional services to the USET member tribes; and

WHEREAS, the contract expansion will include all non-residual Office of Tribal Activities (OTA) PSFAs except those identified for urban Indian programs and newly recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, this resolution supplements but does not supersede the existing resolution each individual tribe has on file which initially supported and established the Health Information Office Program; and

WHEREAS, contracting for the additional PSFA’s is both beneficial to the USET organization and all tribes within the Nashville Area, as these PSFA’s provide a vital communication and information link between Indian Health Service and USET tribes; therefore be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors hereby authorizes the USET Executive Director to continue efforts to collect individual tribal resolutions allowing for contract expansion and subsequent funding; be it further

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors hereby authorizes the USET Executive Director to submit a letter of intent to contract to the IHS Nashville Area Office (NAO) and begin pre-negotiation activities.

"Because there is strength in Unity"
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C. Thursday, February 3, 20000.

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

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