UNIFIED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2001: 044

DISTRIBUTION METHODOLOGY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001 DIABETES FUNDS

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-four (24) 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 an attempt to address the diabetes epidemic in Indian Country the Congress appropriated $150M in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (1997 BBA) over a five-year period to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Indian Health Service (IHS); and

WHEREAS, the IHS developed and implemented the Special Diabetes Program for American Indians/Alaska Natives utilizing the funds appropriated in the 1997 BBA; and

WHEREAS, because diabetes is so rampant in Indian communities and $30M per year is not enough funding to make an adequate impact at the local level the Congress appropriated an additional $70M for the remaining three years of the Special Diabetes Grant Program which brings the total amount available to $100M for Fiscal Years 2001, 2002, and 2003; and

WHEREAS, the distribution methodology used to allocate funds to the twelve IHS Areas includes measures regarding disease prevalence, tribal size and user population and has been the same throughout the Special Diabetes Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the existing methodology does need to be adjusted, however distribution of the new funds in a timely manner is extremely important given the change in the political environment; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors recommends and supports the use of the existing distribution methodology for the new diabetes funds as well as the previously appropriated funds for Fiscal Year 2001 only; and, be it further

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors instructs the USET Health Committee to continue to analyze and modify the distribution methodology prior to the next funding cycle that begins on October 1, 2001 with periodic status reports provided to the USET Board; and, be it further

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors insists that all of the newly appropriated diabetes funds be allocated to tribes for prevention and treatment activities and not diverted to universities or special interest organizations for research purposes.

"Because there is strength in Unity"
USET Resolution 2001:044

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Arlington, VA on Thursday, February 1, 2001.

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

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