



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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USET Resolution No. 2001:046

### **SUPPORT INCREASE TO IHS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

- 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**, the Indian Health Service (IHS) Scholarship Program has remained essentially static over the past several years; and
- WHEREAS**, the IHS Scholarship Program was created to facilitate the development of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) health professionals who would return to Indian Country upon completion of their training; and
- WHEREAS**, less than 10% of practicing medical doctors in IHS facilities are AI/AN and there are historically, as well as presently, in excess of 500 funded, unfilled professional medical positions within IHS facilities; and
- WHEREAS**, the FY 2001 IHS Scholarship Program had 727 qualified applicants for new scholarships; and
- WHEREAS**, the existing IHS Scholarship Program could only fund 149 new applicants, denying assistance to 578 qualified, eligible AI/AN applicants due to lack of funds; and
- WHEREAS**, the IHS Scholarship Program fund needs an additional \$12,811,000 to fund all qualified AI/AN applicants; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the IHS Scholarship Program; be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls for an increase of \$12,811,000 to the IHS Scholarship Program to fulfill the immediate unmet need and subsequent increases adequate to ensure future development of AI/AN health professionals.

### **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.