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 Heath 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.

"Because there is strength in Unity"