



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2001:081

**ENDORSEMENT OF THE FY 2003 INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS) NEEDS
BASED BUDGET**

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of 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, since at least 1975, the fundamental policy of Congress with respect to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) nations has been to encourage the policy of self-determination and self-governance; and

WHEREAS, this policy intends to transfer effective control and operation of programs previously controlled and operated by the federal government for the benefit of AI/AN people; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments are locally based and therefore are in the best position to know the needs of the AI/AN people; and

WHEREAS, an \$18 billion Indian Health Service FY 2003 budget has been developed through consultation with AI/AN people; and

WHEREAS, this budget has been endorsed by the National Indian Health Board, National Congress of American Indians, Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee and National Council on Urban Indians, and will be presented to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB); therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors endorses the \$18 billion FY 2003 IHS budget and strongly encourages Congress, and the Administration to recognize the need for this budget to raise the health status of AI/AN people and achieve the goal of eliminating racial disparities in health care.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Marksville, LA, Thursday, May 24, 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”