SUPPORT AND ENDORESEMENT OF THE PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE SPECIAL DIABETES
GRANT PROGRAM FOR INDIANS AND INCREASE FUNDING

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal 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, in an effort to address the diabetes epidemic in Indian Country Congress appropriated
$150 million in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 over a five year period to the Public
Health Service (PHS); and

WHEREAS, because diabetes is so rampant in Indian communities and $30 million per year was not
enough funding to make an adequate impact on the disease at the tribal level the
Congress appropriated an additional $70 million for the remaining two years of the Special
Diabetes Grant Program and added a one-year extension through the Balanced Budget
Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, a proposal to extend the Special Diabetes Grant Program for Indians for an additional 10
years, which has been endorsed by the American Diabetes Association, Juvenile Diabetes
Foundation and the professional groups that are considered "Friends of Indian Health", Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee, National Indian Health Board and the Indian Health
Service; and

WHEREAS, the extension proposal would also increase the funding from $100 million per year to $200
million per year; and

WHEREAS, much work remains to be completed beyond fiscal year 2003 and it is difficult to
demonstrate impacts on the high rate of diabetes within Indian communities after only six
years of funding to address the epidemic; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that diabetes is one of the most devastating and costly diseases to
treat; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors respectfully requests that the Special Diabetes Program
for Indians be granted an extension for an additional 10 years with funding increased to
$200 million per year beginning in fiscal year 2004 because this program is absolutely
critical in allowing tribal communities to attack the diabetes epidemic in a comprehensive
manner at the local level; and, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors strongly encourages Congress, the Administration, and
the Department of Health and Human Services to support and endorse the extension and
increase of the Diabetes Special Grant Program for Indians; and, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors extends their appreciation for the efforts of Congress,
the Administration, and the Department of Health and Human Services to assist American
Indian/Alaska Native Communities to address this devastating epidemic and eliminate
health disparities.

"Because there is strength in Unity"
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, TN, Thursday, June 13, 2002.

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

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