



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2003:027

SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICE FUNDING FORMULA RECOMMENDED BY THE NATIONAL WORKGROUP

- 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 fiscal year 2000 (FY00), former Indian Health Service (IHS) Director, Dr. Michael Trujillo convened a workgroup to update the Contract Health Service (CHS) funding formula; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors appointed Tribal Chief Brenda Commander, Houlton Band of Maliseet and Mr. Tom John, former USET Health Policy Analyst to represent their collective interests on the CHS workgroup; and
- WHEREAS,** each American Indian/Alaska Native tribe/village is heavily reliant on CHS dollars to provide quality medical care to their members; and
- WHEREAS,** the CHS workgroup met several times throughout FY00 and developed a formula based upon factors that could be measured, such as number of primarily CHS sites per Area and proximity to an IHS hospital; and
- WHEREAS,** the CHS workgroup consisted of representatives from each IHS Area and their recommendation was developed with equal consideration and voting privileges afforded to each Area; and
- WHEREAS,** the CHS workgroup recommendation was sent out for tribal consultation using several different modes of communication including personal meetings, mass mailing, and a national consultation session; and
- WHEREAS,** eight of the twelve IHS Areas supported the CHS workgroup recommendation, but Dr. Trujillo elected to use a hybrid model for distribution of CHS dollars that included a fifty-fifty split using the old CHS formula and the CHS workgroup recommendation; and
- WHEREAS,** during FY00 the Nashville Area of the IHS had only one IHS facility in the Area located in Cherokee, NC, however the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians recently exercised their sovereign right to compact that facility; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors requests that the IHS Interim Director, Dr. Charles Grim accept and implement the recommendation of the CHS workgroup when allocating newly appropriated CHS funding.

“Because there is strength in Unity”

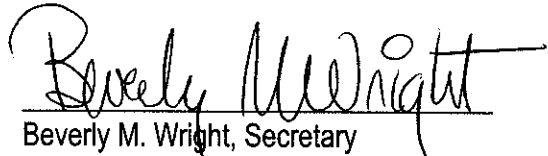
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CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Board Meeting and EXPO, at which a quorum was present, in Uncasville, CT, Thursday, October 31, 2002.



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



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