USET Resolution No. 2005.017

PENOBSCT NATION GOVERNMENTAL Rx PARTNERSHIP

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, the Penobscot Nation is a member-in-good-standing of USET; and

WHEREAS, the Penobscot Nation and the State of Maine have entered into a Governmental Rx Partnership for the purpose of importing prescription drugs from Canada; and

WHEREAS, the partnership ensures equitable access to all persons, especially the elderly and needy for much needed pharmaceuticals; and

WHEREAS, John Baldacci, Governor of the State of Maine, has requested a waiver from the Secretary of Health and Human Services for importation of pharmaceuticals, to be administrated and wholesaled by the Penobscot Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Delegation of Maine, U.S. Senators Snowe and Collins, and U.S. Representatives Allen and Michaud sent a joint letter supporting the Governmental Rx Partnership project; and

WHEREAS, Secretary Thompson, Under-Secretary Claude Allen and Regional Administrator Brian Cresta of HHS have been delaying a decision for issuing the waiver to Maine and the Penobscot Nation; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Government has failed to address these concerns despite HHS public comments in favor of importation of prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, the Penobscot Nation and the State of Maine have responded to the concerns of the people in need through a Governmental Rx Partnership; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors supports the Penobscot Nation and the State of Maine Governmental Rx Partnership and call for the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue the much needed waiver; and, be it further

RESOLVED that the respective Congressional Committees and sub-committees be notified and requested to intervene on behalf of this partnership and efforts being undertaken by the Penobscot Nation and the State of Maine; and, be it further

RESOLVED that the White House be called upon to curtail any further delays of the HHS Administration and on behalf of the Penobscot Nation and the State of Maine to immediately grant the waiver and order the Administration to work cooperatively with the Penobscot Nation and the State of Maine in assisting and meeting prescription drug requirements of the elderly and needy.

"Because there is strength in Unity"
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting & EXPO, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, October 28, 2004.

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

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