



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2006:020

SUPPORT FOR AN ANNUAL COMBINED MEETING OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REGIONS I, II, IV AND VI

- 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 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Indian Tribes share the goals of eliminating health disparities of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) and ensuring that the access to healthcare is maximized; and
- WHEREAS,** in order to achieve these goals, it is essential that federally recognized Indian Tribes and HHS engage in open, continuous, and meaningful consultation; and
- WHEREAS,** effective consultation leads to information exchange, mutual understanding, and informed decision making; and
- WHEREAS,** the commitment of the United States government to consultation with Indian Tribes has been affirmed in Presidential Memoranda in 1994 and 2004, in Executive Orders issued by the President in 1998 and 2000; and
- WHEREAS,** HHS adopted a Tribal Consultation Policy on January 14, 2005; and
- WHEREAS,** the Policy requires that each of the HHS Regional offices engage in consultation with Indian Tribes within their respective region; and
- WHEREAS,** the Indian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area is comprised of four regions (I, II, IV and VI) and have in the past held ONE centralized consultation session; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET member Tribes found the centralized consultation session to be very helpful and allowed for the Tribes to take a unified stance on several pertinent issues; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors urges the HHS Regional offices within the IHS Nashville Area to collaborate with Tribes and discuss options for having one centralized consultation session; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that if one centralized consultation session does not take place, the Board of Directors request that individual regional tribal consultation sessions be held as planned.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting & EXPO, at which a quorum was present, in Orlando, FL, on Thursday, October 13, 2005.

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

Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"