



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike • Suite 100 • Nashville, TN 37214
(P): 615-872-7900 • (F): 615-872-7417

USET Resolution No. 2011:024

**SUPPORTING SENATE PASSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT OF
H.R. 4347, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNANCE
ACT OF 2010**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-five (25) 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,** Tribes are "distinct, independent, political communities" exercising powers of self-government by virtue of their own innate sovereignty; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1975, Congress enacted the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), authorizing Tribes to enter into contracts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) to receive funds and manage individual programs; and
- WHEREAS,** ISDEAA was amended in 1988, 1991, 1994, and 2000; and
- WHEREAS,** in a 2004 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on Indian economic development, GAO noted that Tribes that engaged in self-governance had greater gains in employment levels from 1990 to 2000 compared to Tribes that participated less in the program; and
- WHEREAS,** H.R. 4347, the Department of the Interior Tribal Self-Governance Act of 2010, was introduced on December 16, 2009, by Representative Dan Boren (D-OK); and
- WHEREAS,** the House Committee on Natural Resources (Committee) held a hearing on H.R. 4347 on June 9, 2010; and
- WHEREAS,** on July 22, 2010, the Committee met to consider H.R. 4347, and Representative Boren offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute, which was adopted by voice vote; and
- WHEREAS,** H.R. 4347, was passed by the House of Representatives on September 22, 2010; and
- WHEREAS,** H.R. 4347 includes comprehensive amendments to Title IV of ISDEAA, as well as some important amendments to Title I of the ISDEAA; and
- WHEREAS,** Title I authorizes and sets forth criteria for the contracting program within the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), while Title IV authorizes and sets forth criteria for the self-governance program at DOI; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the enhancement of Tribal self-governance by, among other things, making the Department of Interior self-governance program consistent with its Indian Health Service counterpart in Title V; and, be it further

- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports Senate passage of H.R. 4347 before the end of the current congressional session; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors urges the Administration to support H.R. 4347.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET 2010 Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, October 14, 2010.



Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



Robert McGhee, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"