



## United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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### **USET Resolution No. 2013:025**

#### **APPEAL TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF CHEROKEE CENTRAL SCHOOLS**

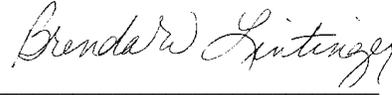
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the federal government has a trust responsibility to Indian Tribes and a well-rounded public education is essential for the future success of Indian Tribes and today's school children; and
- WHEREAS,** the Budget Control Act of 2011 includes a provision to impose \$1.2 trillion in across-the-board budget cuts also known as sequestration to almost all federal programs including education that would become effective March 1, 2013; and
- WHEREAS,** sequestration would make an impact on school districts during the 2013-14 school year, with the exception of the Impact Aid program, with which a reduction would become effective this school year; and
- WHEREAS,** sequestration would make an impact on education by a reduction of more than 8 percent and could result in larger class sizes, fewer course offerings, four-day school weeks, loss of extracurricular activities, and loss of teachers and staff; and
- WHEREAS,** sequestration would make an impact on almost every public school system in the Country and the millions of students educated through programs such as Title I grants for disadvantaged students, Title VII grants, the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), English Language Acquisition, Career and Technical Education, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers and more; and
- WHEREAS,** Cherokee Central Schools, as well as other public schools, would be devastated by an estimated \$2.7 billion loss from just three programs alone – Title I grants, IDEA, special education state grants and Head Start – that serve a combined 30.7 million children; and
- WHEREAS,** federal funding for K-12 programs was already reduced by more than \$835 million in Fiscal Year 2011, and state and local funding for education continues to be impacted by budget cuts and lower local property tax revenues; and
- WHEREAS,** states and local governments have very limited capacity to absorb further budget cuts from sequestration, as Cherokee Central Schools has already implemented cuts commensurate to state and local budget conditions; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** the USET Board of Directors urges Congress and the Administration to amend the Budget Control Act of 2011 to mitigate the drastic cuts to education that would affect the students of Cherokee Central Schools and all other schools dependent on these funds, in order to protect education as an investment to economic stability and American competitiveness.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 7, 2013.



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



Brenda Lintinger, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*