



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
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USET Resolution No. 2009:036

FEDERAL LABOR POLICIES AND INDIAN COUNTRY

- 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,** the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has reversed its longstanding legal position regarding Indian Tribal enterprises and now seeks to subject those enterprises to the National Labor Relations Act; and
- WHEREAS,** certain labor organizations are advocating the enactment of the Employee Free Choice Act, legislation which would amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit a union to organize within any business enterprise without a full and fair election by the employees; and
- WHEREAS,** Indian Tribes, as sovereign and independent governments, should not be subject to the labor and employment statutes of other governments and should be free, like all governments, to decide whether and to what extent they will enter into collective-bargaining agreements with labor unions; and
- WHEREAS,** USET has enacted four (4) resolutions (USET Resolution Nos. 2001:14; 2001:037; 2004:069; and 2005:027) over the past decade, condemning any action that subjects Indian Tribes to the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors reaffirms its support for the enactment of legislation to clarify that the National Labor Relations Act does not apply to Indian Tribes or Tribal enterprises, in order to ensure that the Federal Government properly recognizes the sovereign rights of Indian Governments to manage their own affairs without interference from third parties.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 12, 2009.

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

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

“Because there is strength in Unity”