

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. 92-13MS

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE USET GAMING ASSOCIATION

- WHEREAS,** the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty (20) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET, Inc. Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** it is one of the purposes of USET to support the activities of member tribes that promote Indian self-determination and demonstrate tribal unity; and
- WHEREAS,** evidence suggests that Nevada gaming organizations and other anti-Indian interests have engaged the services of a major public relations firm to discredit Indian gaming and create negative perceptions of the capabilities of Indian people; and
- WHEREAS,** gaming on Indian reservations enhances tribal self-determination, reduces the dependency of tribes on federal programs and is a proven, effective tool for economic development; and
- WHEREAS,** there is an urgent need for USET tribes to develop a coordinated gaming strategy that will protect Indian rights established under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) from attack by states and anti-Indian interests that will occur when the IGRA is undergoing amendment in the next session of Congress; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a need to establish strong communication linkages with Senators, Congressmen, and the public in order to ensure their support for protecting tribal rights under IGRA; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a need to inform the general public that gaming on Indian reservations provide jobs for Indians and non-Indians, provides income for tribal governments to use on needed educational, social service and economic development programs, provides additional business for the local Indian and non-Indian economy in terms of needed goods and services; and
- WHEREAS,** the Miccosukee Tribe, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, the Oneida Indian Nation of New York, the Narragansett Indian Tribe, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and the Passamaquoddy Tribe all have expressed an interest in or pledged financial support for the establishment of a Gaming Association supportive of gaming conducted on Indian reservations; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned tribes have hired the firms of Paul Werth Associates, Inc., and McGuiness and Holch to provide aggressive support for Indian gaming in Congress and to educate the public about the benefits of Indian gaming.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that USET authorizes and supports the establishment of the United South and Eastern Tribes Gaming Association (Association) in defense of Indian rights and Indian self-determination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the chairman of the Association shall be elected by the USET Board of Directors for a period of two (2) years. The Association will be empowered to set up its own Bylaws and elect its other officers from its membership. The Association will work closely with other Indian gaming organizations and take actions defending gaming on Indian reservations and the right to conduct such activity, without state interference, as established under the IGRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that other member tribes of USET wishing to defend their rights to conduct gaming activities, as established by the IGRA, will be welcomed for membership in the Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution supersedes Resolution 92-19MV.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Biloxi, Mississippi on October 29, 1992.



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



Lovelin Poncho, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.