

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

RESOLUTION NO 93-14DC

1992 AMENDMENTS TO THE JOB TRAINING AND PARTNERSHIP ACT

- 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,** USET has established an education committee comprised of representatives from their member tribes to provide an important delivery mechanism to promote and support education in Indian country; and
- WHEREAS,** the principal resources available to tribal governments and Indian organizations to provide employment and training services for Indian people are authorized by the Indian programs under the Job Training and Partnership Act (JTPA); and
- WHEREAS,** approximately thirty thousand (30,000) Indian and Native Alaskan workers in the United States are currently served by the Indian JTPA Title IV-A program; and
- WHEREAS,** the JTPA Title II-B Summer Youth Employment and Training program serves an additional ten thousand (10,000) Indian reservation and Native Alaskan youth; and
- WHEREAS,** due to their receiving Indian JTPA IV-A funds, grantees have been able to obtain additional employment and training resources through other federal, state and local governmental programs; and
- WHEREAS,** it is essential that the Indian JTPA Title IV-A programs retain flexibility in order to meet effectively the appropriate needs of Native Americans in Indian country; and
- WHEREAS,** Indian JTPA Title IV-A programs must remain flexible if they are to function in a manner consistent with the principles of tribal sovereignty and self-determinations as they have been set forth by the President of the United States and the United States Congress for the last two decades; and
- WHEREAS,** included in the 1992 amendments to JTPA, the Congress:
- (a) acknowledged the unique government to government relationship with Native American governments
 - (b) confirmed the continued rights of tribal governments to mold their JTPA programs to suit their own needs
 - (c) mandated the Department of Labor (DOL) to establish a strong Indian office to work with Native American

- grantees, as they administer JTPA programs
- (d) mandated employment for Indian people and that office be given special consideration
- (e) created a permanent Native American JTPA Programs Advisory Council which reports to the Secretary of Labor and Congress; and

WHEREAS, the DOL announced by notice in the September 10, 1992 Federal Register that is intends to eradicate the Indian JTPA programs flexibility by arbitrarily imposing restrictions on participant eligibility requirements and program services, which restriction were written specifically for non-Indian programs and which were not ever intended by Congress to be applied to Indian programs; and

WHEREAS, no action has been taken by DOL to establish and effective and meaningful Indian office to administer JTPA programs or to provide special consideration for the employment of Indian people in that office despite the mandate in the 1992 amendments to JTPA.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of USET hereby calls on the Secretary of Labor to suspend all proposed changes to JTPA regulations except those specifically mandated by Title IV-A of the 1992 Job Training Reform Amendments until consultations have resulted in an effective equally based dialogue with end results that will meet the needs of Indian communities and the participants they serve; and

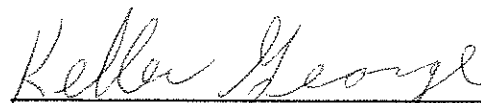
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of USET call on the President to direct DOL to adhere to the provision of the Indian Self-Determination Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of USET call on all Committees of Congress with appropriate jurisdiction, along with all members of both houses, to intervene with the Secretary of Labor toward these ends.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly approved at the Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC, on February 25, 1993.


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


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