

**UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.**

Resolution No. ~~93~~17LA

**REQUESTING NEW PROCEDURES  
FOR THE PLACEMENT OF LANDS INTO TRUST STATUS**

- WHEREAS**, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-one (21) 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**, some of the member-tribes of USET have been attempting for over a year to have lands owned by those tribes in fee simple to be placed into trust status by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, some for gaming purposes, and another for manufacturing purposes, and
- WHEREAS**, the system under which the Bureau of Indian Affairs considers requests for placement of lands into trust status is seriously flawed, in part because of the bureaucracy's apprehensions about the initiation of gaming enterprises, and in part because the mechanics of the decision-making have been delegated down to the Area Office level, and
- WHEREAS**, as tribal governments become more and more involved in the American business community, where decisions need to be fast-paced and final, and as possibilities for further trade open with the approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement, bureaucratic delays in necessary approvals can be the death knell for important business deals,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board of directors of United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., does hereby request the Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs of the U.S. Department of the Interior to have conducted a study of the current process for decision-making on conveyance of lands owned by tribes in fee simple to trust status, with recommendations for ways to streamline and speed up the process,

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the board of directors of United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., does hereby authorize the Executive Director to contact appropriate officials on the Interior Department in order to pursue this request.



**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the Annual Board meeting at which a quorum was present in Lafayette, LA on December 8, 1993.



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



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

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