



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

Resolution No. USET 96:12

**WELFARE REFORM LEGISLATION MUST INCLUDE TRIBAL INPUT
ON PROGRAMS AND FUNDING**

- WHEREAS,** the United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-three (23) 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 is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors is firmly committed to the needs of the Tribes and their members to the goal of protecting the sovereignty of Indian tribes and safeguarding the status and integrity of tribal custom and culture by assuring that the integrity and stability of Indian families is not terminated, eroded, manipulated or eliminated through legislation; and,
- WHEREAS,** the needs of the Tribes and their members must not / cannot be overlooked in any welfare reform legislation and under no circumstances are program funds for tribal members to be administered through the States; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Tribes have neither been consulted or allowed input regarding this legislation.

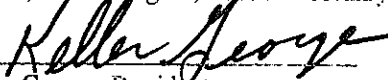
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the USET Board of Directors recommends that:

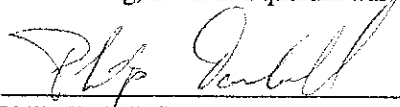
- 1.) Tribes must be consulted and allowed input regarding the Welfare Reform Act;
- 2) All job training, education and job creation programs developed for or by the States must be available to Tribes;
- 3) Consultations with Tribal governments be mandated to develop programs consistent with self-determination goals that adhere to tribal culture and social characteristics.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, should the Welfare Reform Act proceed without Tribal block grant funding, appropriate language should be adopted that tribal governments be funded directly in block grants in an amount equal to five percent [5%] of the total amount appropriated to States for each of the following: Title IV-B, Subpart 1 (Child Welfare Services); Title VI-B, Subpart 2 (Family Preservation and Support Services); Family Violence Prevention & Services Act funding [which the bill would take away from Tribes]; Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance; and provide matching funds to Tribes under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Block Grant.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Washington Impact Week Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C. on February 8, 1996.


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


Philip Tarbell, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"