



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

Resolution No. USET 96:24

JOINT MEETING OF USET AND GREAT LAKES TRIBES

- WHEREAS,** the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal 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,** during its 1996 Impact Week a joint meeting was held with tribes from the Great Lakes region numbering thirty-six (36) federally recognized Indian tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** after deliberation of various issues affecting American Indians it was determined that a select group of specific issues warranted further attention from the combined efforts of USET and the Great Lakes regional tribes as a whole.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that as a result of this joint meeting of the USET Board of Directors and tribes of the Great Lakes region does hereby endorse and support the following positions;

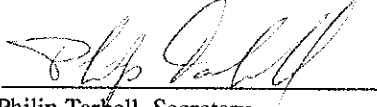
- support of legislation to establish tribal eligibility for tax deferred retirement and pension programs;
- support for expansion of tribal eligibility to use tax exempt financing/appropriate changes to Tribal Tax Status Act;
- opposition to the concept of means testing as a way to determine tribal eligibility for federal assistance
- support of tribal exemption to Endangered Species Act when it conflicts with tribal culture;
- opposition to an imposed tax on gaming revenue;
- support for the federal government direct block granting programs to Tribes and opposition to monies flowing through states;
- support discussion of tribal lobbying strategies and forming a National Indian Political Action Committee;
- opposition to targeted appropriations without direct tribal involvement;
- support for separate Indian CDBG program as entitlement to tribes;
- support appointment of an American Indian as a liaison in the White House to replace departing Loretta Avent;
- support for Historical Preservation Officer funding for tribes; and
- support requirement that Tribes be directly involved with BIA Reorganization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a joint effort be continued to communicate and advocate the above issues with the appropriate Federal, State and Local entities.

CERTIFICATION

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


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


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

"Because there is strength in Unity"