



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike • Suite 100 • Nashville, TN 37214
Telephone: (615) 872-7900 • Fax: (615) 872-7417

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 96:29

**RESOLUTION TO CALL UPON FEDERAL AGENCIES TO ADHERE TO THE NATIONAL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA)**

- 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, 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,** the 1992 amendment to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) assures Indian Tribes the right to conduct historic preservation programs, and to replace State Historic Preservation Officers with a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer; and
- WHEREAS,** the Act clearly states and confirms that an Indian Tribe's values and concepts are to be of paramount concern and consideration based on their own plans, ordinances, and regulations; and
- WHEREAS,** The Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to modify any pertinent federal rules, guidelines, or regulations in order to accommodate Tribal Preservation programs; and
- WHEREAS,** federal agencies, namely the National Park Service, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation have unreasonably and, in conflict with the time-table and the intent of Congress, delayed and thwarted Tribal assumption of historic preservation programs from their lawful duties; and
- WHEREAS,** these agencies, and those with whom they consort (archaeologists, historians, and professional preservationists) have attempted through rules, regulations, and guidelines to force Eurocentric elitist concepts over what is correct and proper on Indian lands; and
- WHEREAS,** these agencies have attempted by these means to perpetuate a paternalistic wardship rather than recognize the Government-to-Government relationship of Sovereigns which is inherent, but further confirmed by President Clinton.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that a delegation composed of Tribal leaders, knowledgeable associates, and competent legal council be formed and funded to pursue, at the highest levels of the United States Executive, Congressional, and Judicial branches, immediate and permanent relief of these concerns from the oppression of those bureaucratic agencies which would regulate or oversee Tribal historic preservation on their sovereign lands.

“Because there is strength in Unity”

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

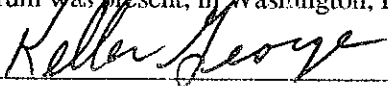
Resolution No. USET 96:29

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this delegation:

- seek immediate compliance with the provisions of the 1992 NHPA as it applies to federally recognized Indian Tribes and their sovereign right to conduct historic preservation programs without State or Federal agency intervention;
- seek attention and action from the highest levels of United States government to enforce ,without further delay, the stated intent of the NHPA;
- seek from the President of the United States to reemphasize the Government-to-Government relationship and reduction of federal regulations as this relates to Indian Tribes.

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.



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