



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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Resolution No. USET 98:13

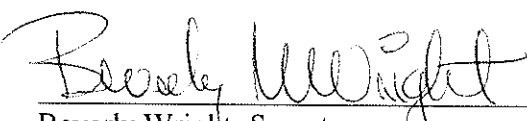
### CONGRESSIONAL ACTS DENYING SOME TRIBES THE BENEFITS OF GENERAL INDIAN LAWS

- 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,** USET is committed to the needs of all of its tribes and their members, and to the goals of preserving the integrity of tribal culture and the stability of our Indian children and families, by promoting tribal self-determination and the means for economic self-sufficiency; and
- WHEREAS,** the official policy of the United States is proclaimed to be promotion of tribal self-determination and economic self-sufficiency by maintaining a government-to-government relationship between the United States government and each tribal government, and by the provision of federal programs and services for the benefit of Indian tribes and their members; and
- WHEREAS,** it is a basic principle of modern federal Indian policy that formal tribal consent is a prerequisite to any Congressional authorization of state jurisdiction over tribes and their members; and
- WHEREAS,** laws that discriminate between federally recognized tribes by denying access to federal programs and benefits provided for Indian tribes generally, are inconsistent with official federal policy and forsake the federal trust obligation to tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the effect of laws denying some tribes the benefits of laws intended to promote the success of tribal communities generally has been to delay the progress of those tribes, to increase the disparities between tribes, and to tolerate state laws that are inconsistent with the federal policies promoting tribal self-sufficiency and protecting the integrity of tribal cultures; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** existing federal statutes should be repealed that deny tribes the benefits of future federal laws enacted for the benefit of Indians, for such laws were necessarily written and approved without knowing the future needs of the tribes affected, or the benefits Congress would subsequently enact for the benefit of tribes generally, and abandon tribes to the custody of State governments that have rarely shown any interest in the objectives embodied in federal Indian policy.

### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the annual USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, February 5, 1998.

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

  
Beverly Wright, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*