



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 99:11

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED LIMITATIONS ON TRIBAL SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising 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 comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gorton and Senator Bryan introduced legislation (S. 1691 and certain companion legislation) that purports to strip Indian nations of their tribal sovereign immunity and their status as sovereign Indian nations; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that Senator Gorton and others will continue to press such legislation; and

WHEREAS, such anti-sovereignty legislative proposals are a threat to the continued existence of all Indian nations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors unalterably opposes all legislative proposals, such as S. 1691, that unlawfully seek to diminish or curtail the inherent sovereign rights of Indian nations and tribal governments; be it further

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors directs each of its member nations to communicate their opposition to all such proposals introduced in Congress to the elected officials representing the states where their reservations and territories are located; be it further

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors directs the Taxation Committee to coordinate opposition to legislation threatening the sovereignty of Indian tribes with other organizations that are also fighting to defeat such legislative proposals, including the National Indian Gaming Association and the National Congress of American Indians.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, February 4, 1999.

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

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

“Because there is strength in Unity”