



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2000:62

INTERNET GAMING LEGISLATION

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-four (24) 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,** the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) was established in order to protect and promote the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and the preservation of cultural and natural resources of its member tribes and all of Indian country; and
- WHEREAS,** the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) was passed by the United States Congress in order to provide clear standards and regulations for the conduct of gaming on Indian lands; and
- WHEREAS,** in passing the IGRA the Congress stated that "a principal goal of Federal Indian policy is to promote tribal economic development, tribal self-sufficiency, and strong tribal government"; and
- WHEREAS,** the language of the IGRA expressly includes the expansion of Class II Bingo participation through the use of technology and telecommunications such as the Internet; and
- WHEREAS,** the legislative history of IGRA, specifically encouraged Indian tribes to expand their Class II Bingo games by using technology, such as the Internet; and
- WHEREAS,** Congress is currently considering Internet gaming prohibition legislation that would prohibit Indian tribes from conducting Class II Bingo over the Internet, while at the same time expanding Internet gaming opportunities for non-Indian gaming interests by providing exemptions for state lotteries, horse racing, dog racing, jai alai, and fantasy sports leagues; and
- WHEREAS,** as part of the Congress' consideration of the prohibition legislation, a compromise was reached and announced that did not preserve the full range of tribal governmental gaming rights as set forth in the IGRA, but was instead, a compromise of tribal sovereign rights; and
- WHEREAS,** this prohibition legislation is proceeding very quickly through the Congress with no opportunity for review by the House Resources Committee; and
- WHEREAS,** USET has been made aware of these events and finds that any attempt to diminish tribal sovereign rights through the passage of legislation designed to prohibit tribal governmental gaming rights as provided for in the IGRA, are contrary to the principles of tribal sovereignty and self-determination; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** the USET Board of Directors does hereby support all lobbying and litigation efforts to preserve tribal governmental rights to conduct Class II Bingo over the Internet and to engage in all other gaming activities contemplated by IGRA; be it further

"Because there is strength in Unity"

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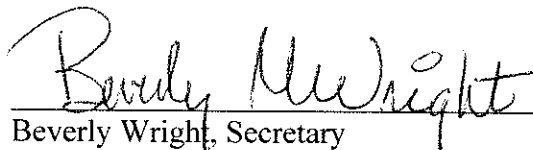
RESOLVED, the USET Board of Directors hereby calls upon all the congressional delegations of its member tribes to oppose all Internet gaming legislation unless such legislation preserves all existing tribal gaming rights as set forth in IGRA.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Board Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Houston, Texas on Thursday, June 8, 2000.



Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc



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