



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 2002:007

AFFIRMATION OF TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY

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

WHEREAS, the current reservation of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians tribe encompasses a portion of the lands formerly known as Hickory Ground, which is among the ancestral lands of the Maskókí peoples of the Southeast; and

WHEREAS, these lands were purchased by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and taken into trust by the US Government as a reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians tribe has completed extensive cultural resource surveys, in full compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and all applicable federal laws and regulations, as confirmed by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, in order to preclude any adverse impact to cultural resources that might be occasioned by tribal development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wetumpka, AL together with a group of self-styled "Indians" not associated with any tribes, has chosen to bring suit against the Poarch Band of Creek Indians; Chairman Eddie Tullis and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Bill Day (both individually and in their official capacities); Secretary of the Interior Gail Norton; Assistant Secretary Neal McCaleb; and David Eason Construction; and

WHEREAS this suit has been brought on by what appears to be frivolous grounds, accusing the Tribe of destruction of cultural sites, acting against the interests of Indians, and making numerous other self-serving statements that are wholly without factual basis; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors condemns this apparent self-serving and malicious attempt to undermine sovereignty and limit tribal self-determination; and, be it further

RESOLVED that USET calls upon the City of Wetumpka, AL, to end this lawsuit and furnish appropriate redress to the Tribe and the individuals so named in this action.

"Because there is strength in Unity"

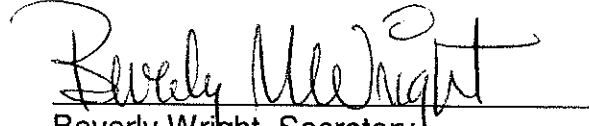
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CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Miami, FL, on Thursday, October 25, 2001.



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



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