



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2002:034

CALIFORNIA SALES TAX REGULATIONS CONCERNING RESERVATION-BASED ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

- 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 represents the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** many state governments have unlawfully attempted to impose sales taxes on reservation-based economic enterprises; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of California recently proposed a new sales tax regulation that expressly recognizes that all sales of restaurant food and beverages by Indian retailers and all products sold by an Indian retailer which were developed or produced on tribal lands are not subject to sales taxation; and
- WHEREAS,** California's decision to propose this sales tax regulation was the result of persistent and effective efforts on the part of several Indian nations to educate the State regarding the limits of its taxing jurisdiction; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors applauds the willingness of the State of California to respect the sovereignty of Indian nations and to recognize the well-established legal doctrine of "reservation value added" in the administration of its tax laws; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors encourages other state governments to respect the sovereignty of Indian nations and to cease all unlawful efforts to impose state taxes within the boundaries of Indian country.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C., Thursday, January 31, 2002.

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

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