



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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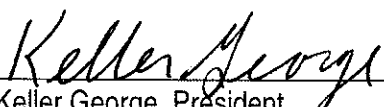
USET Resolution No. 2004:011

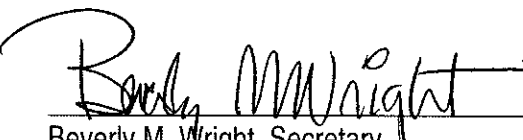
### OPPOSITION TO S. 1177 AND H.R. 2824

- 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 comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** two separate measures have been introduced in Congress, S. 1177 and H.R. 2824, for purposes of amending the Jenkins Act, an existing federal statute governing the interstate sales of cigarettes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Jenkins Act is currently enforced by the United States Justice Department, which is, directly or indirectly, responsible for enforcing all federal statutes; and
- WHEREAS,** S. 1177 and H.R. 2824 propose to give state governments—historically, the most virulent enemies of Indian tribes—the authority to enforce the Jenkins Act in Indian Country and to sue Indian tribes and their members; and
- WHEREAS,** S. 1177 and H.R. 2824, by their terms, would undermine existing tribal-state tax compacts and would create a disincentive for states to enter into similar agreements in the future; and
- WHEREAS,** S. 1177 and H.R. 2824 would result in double taxation on many Indian reservations, thereby undermining the ability of many Indian nations to raise revenues through the imposition of tribal taxes; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that USET unequivocally opposes S. 1177 and H.R. 2824, along with any legislation that undermines state-tribal tax agreements, impairs the ability of tribal governments to collect their own taxes, and permits state governments to enforce federal statutes in Indian Country.

### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting and EXPO at which a quorum was present in Mashantucket, CT, on Thursday, October 23, 2003.

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

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

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*