



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

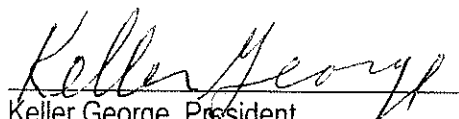
USET Resolution No. 2004:067

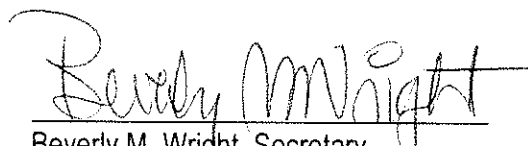
INDIAN GAMING AND UNLAWFUL STATE REVENUE SHARING DEMANDS

- 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,** Congress passed the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) for the express purpose of providing for the self-sufficiency and economic independence of Indian nations and their members; and
- WHEREAS,** IGRA expressly prohibits the imposition by state or local governments of taxes, fees or assessments on Indian casinos; and
- WHEREAS,** many state and local governments, in contravention of the express terms and purposes of IGRA, are seeking to compel Indian nations to "share" their profits from gaming; and
- WHEREAS,** Congress is currently considering legislation, S. 1529, that would expressly authorize states to demand revenue sharing from Indian casinos without placing any limits on such demands or prescribing what states must offer Indian nations in return for a portion of their gaming revenues; and
- WHEREAS,** the revenue sharing provisions of S. 1529 are inconsistent with the congressional intent behind the passage of IGRA and would severely undermine the ability of Indian nations to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Department of the Interior has failed to adopt any policies or guidelines regarding revenue sharing between Indian nations and state governments and such failure has had a profound adverse impact on Indian gaming across the country; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that USET strongly opposes S. 1529 as currently submitted as it violates the intent of IGRA; and, be it further
- RESOLVED,** that if S. 1529 remains under consideration, the USET Board of Directors hereby urges Congress not to enact the revenue sharing provisions of S. 1529 without placing quantitative limits on the amount of revenue a state can receive from an Indian casino and without expressly articulating what a state must give an Indian nation in exchange for a portion of its casino revenues; and, be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the USET Board of Directors strongly encourages the United States Department of the Interior to formally adopt rules, regulations, and policies regarding revenue sharing between Indian nations and state governments.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting at which a quorum was present in Hollywood, FL on Thursday, June 17, 2004.


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"