



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2005:002

REQUEST TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM PAYMENT STANDARD FOR BURIAL ASSISTANCE

- 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,** the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs established a policy in Fiscal Year (FY) 00 on the maximum allowable costs for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) burial assistance program; and
- WHEREAS,** burial costs have continued to increase over the past several years and these costs are placing undue hardship on Tribes attempting to provide burials that are culturally sensitive and appropriate; and
- WHEREAS,** the rise in burial costs has created a need for an increase to the standard burial assistance allowable costs; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors requests the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs to increase the maximum allowable cost for burial assistance from \$2500 to \$7000; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors requests that the BIA Central Office and Eastern Regional Office advocate on behalf of the Tribes in support of an increase to the BIA burial assistance program.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting & EXPO, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, October 28, 2004.

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

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