



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2005:010

SUPPORT FOR THE USE OF AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE VERSUS MULTI-RACE DESIGNATION IN THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 1996 FUNDS DISTRIBUTION FORMULA

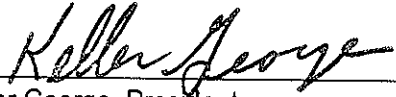
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the needs and issues affecting the USET member tribes are as vast and diverse as the geographic locations that the tribes occupy; and
- WHEREAS,** Presidential Executive Order 13175 directed Federal Agencies to conduct meaningful consultation with Tribal Governments regarding issues that affect them; and
- WHEREAS,** NAHASDA has affirmed the government-to-government relationship of the federal government, individual Tribes and Alaska Native villages and their rights to self-determination; and
- WHEREAS,** the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) formed a Formula Negotiated Rulemaking Committee to review and potentially negotiate changes to the original formula for the disbursement of funds as required by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA), as amended; and
- WHEREAS,** the 2000 Census asked for respondents to identify their ethnic heritage, and included in this form was a section whereby the respondent could indicate whether they were a member of a federally recognized Tribe or multi-race, and many members of federally recognized Tribes indicated that they were of more than one race (multi-race); and
- WHEREAS,** HUD reviewed the 2000 census data without consultation with Tribes or bringing the question to the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee and chose to use the multi-race population numbers rather than the American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) count for the purpose of distributing funds under the formula; and
- WHEREAS,** this arbitrary and capricious decision resulted in a major change in the distribution of funds that has severely impacted the ability of many Tribes to provide desperately needed, safe and decent housing for their members; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors supports the use of AI/AN population numbers versus the multi-race population numbers that are currently being used; and, be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the USET Board of Directors calls upon HUD to negotiate with the Tribes in identifying the appropriate population numbers to be used in the formula for the distribution of NAHASDA funds, in a true government-to-government manner that recognizes the self-determination and sovereignty of the Tribes.

“Because there is strength in Unity”

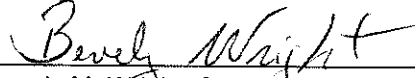
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CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, 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.