



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

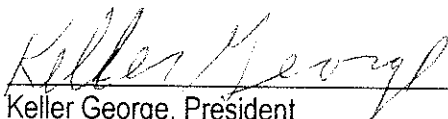
USET Resolution No. 2005:028

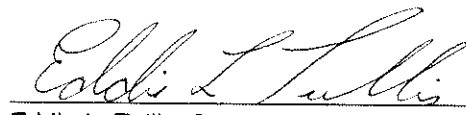
SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION TO CLARIFY RULES APPLICABLE TO TRIBAL RETIREMENT PLANS

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** actions of the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** a bill was introduced in the 108th session of Congress, titled H.R. 3605, "Governmental Pension Plan Equalization Act of 2003"; and
- WHEREAS,** HR 3605 was not enacted, but is expected to be reintroduced in the 109th Congressional session; and
- WHEREAS,** if a bill similar to HR 3605 is introduced and enacted, it will amend the Internal Revenue Code and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) to clarify that federally recognized Indian tribal governments are to be regulated under the same government employer rules and procedures that apply to Federal, State, and other local government employers with regard to the establishment and maintenance of employee benefit plans; and
- WHEREAS,** enactment of a bill similar to HR 3605 will recognize the inherent sovereign rights of Indian Tribes to govern all tribal affairs including tribal businesses and its employees without interference from third parties; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors supports the reintroduction of the "Governmental Pension Plan Equalization Act of 2003."

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 10, 2005.


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


Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"