



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

---

---

USET Resolution No. 2005: 052

### SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN INDIAN COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL FUNDING PLAN

- 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 taking of America from the American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) by these United States has put America's first citizens at great economic and social disadvantage in comparison to other American citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** the federal program dollars appropriated to fund programs for unmet needs of AI/AN is the essence of the fiduciary trust relationship between the United States and Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** study after study shows that federal funding to AI/AN is considerably less than funding to the general population on a per capita basis; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Civil Rights Commission Report, "A Quiet Crisis," identified program deficit funding of five federal departments reflecting the existence of a critical condition; and
- WHEREAS,** the report reflects the lack of services in healthcare and general welfare of Tribes, despite the fact that prisoners receive substantially more healthcare dollars per capita than AI/AN; and
- WHEREAS,** the report shows that over the past two decades, inflation has dramatically reduced the value of flat federal funding for vital Tribal programs and is dramatically undermining the government-to-government relationship between Tribes and the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** USET is very concerned that the fiduciary trust relationship that federally recognized Tribes have with the United States is seriously compromised and irreparably damaged as a result of insufficient funding to carry out essential governmental functions on behalf of Tribes; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors respectively requests the Senate Committee of Indian Affairs, the Senate Appropriations and Budget Committee, the House Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Sub-Committee, the House Budget Committee, the Department of the Interior, and the Office of the President of the United States call for a meeting of Tribal representatives from each Bureau of Indian Affairs region and national Indian organizations, in this calendar year, to develop a Comprehensive American Indian Federal Funding Plan, based on unmet needs, notwithstanding current budget funding levels; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that USET do everything possible to immediately work with the current Administration and Congress to implement an unmet needs based budget for all Indian programs, over a five year period, commencing in fiscal year 2007, to meet parity projections in fiscal year 2011.

### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Mashantucket, CT, Thursday, June 30, 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"*