



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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USET Resolution No. 2006:011

### **SUPPORT FOR THE WHITE HOUSE TO CALL A SUMMIT BUDGET MEETING WITH CONGRESS TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE AMERICAN INDIAN BUDGET**

- 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 lands indigenous to American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) by the United States has put AI/AN at a great economic and social disadvantage in comparison to other American citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** federal program dollars appropriated to fund programs for disadvantaged AI/AN is the essence of the trust responsibility the United States has to AI/AN people; and
- WHEREAS,** numerous studies show that federal funding to AI/AN programs is considerably less than funding provided for the rest of the population on a per capita basis, yet it makes no difference to those who allocate funding for AI/AN needs; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Civil Rights Commission report, "A Quiet Crisis", identified program deficit funding reflecting that critical conditions exist; and
- WHEREAS,** human conditions of the AI/AN population are reflected in the lack of services, poverty, illness, and general welfare of AI/AN Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** USET is very concerned that the trust relationship between AI/AN Tribes and the United States is seriously compromised and critically damaged as a result of insufficient funding to carry out essential governmental functions; and
- WHEREAS,** the only solution is to bring together the decision-makers in a government-to-government meeting between the Tribes and the United States; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors respectfully requests that the President, the President of the Senate, the Senate Majority Leader, and the Speaker of the House appoint representatives and call a meeting of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, House Resources Committee and other appropriate committees with AI/AN jurisdiction; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors work with the Administration, Congress, national and regional Indian organizations in the coming months to develop a comprehensive AI/AN budget notwithstanding current budget funding levels; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Executive Director immediately begin work with the Administration and Congress to implement the budget justification for all Federal Indian Programs over a five year period commencing in fiscal year 2007 to meet parity projections in fiscal year 2011.

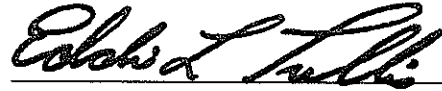
*"Because there is strength in Unity"*

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting & EXPO, at which a quorum was present, in Orlando, Fl, on Thursday, October 13, 2005.



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



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