



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2006:057

EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR THE EASTERN PEQUOT TRIBAL NATION

- 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,** USET supports the process of Federal Recognition of Indian Tribes pursuant to federal law and regulation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation (EPTN) followed the Federal Recognition process and was granted a positive determination of Federal Recognition from the Bureau of Indian Affairs on June 24, 2002; and
- WHEREAS,** within 90 days of receiving Federal Recognition, the Attorney General of Connecticut and 20 local Connecticut towns filed an appeal with the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA), leading to the reversal of the Federal Recognition decision; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Connecticut utilized state political offices and public tax funds to advocate and finance opposition to the EPTN Federal Recognition for political purposes to stop the expansion of Indian gaming and prohibit future acquisition of federal trust land in Connecticut to ensure that the EPTN can never bring a claim for land against the state; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors condemns the actions of the State of Connecticut and its political officials who utilized public tax dollars to advocate a biased opinion against one of its constituents; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports equal access to justice for the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation in their ability to clarify their Federal Recognition application that lead to a positive determination of Federal Recognition from the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon President Bush and the Secretary of the Interior to reconsider this flagrant violation of the inherent sovereignty of the EPTN.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, June 8, 2006.

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”