



USET Resolution No. 2009:020

RESTORE AND PROTECT THE INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT FUNDING

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-five (25) 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 Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) is comprised of housing programs for Indian Tribes, Alaska Native villages and Native Hawaiian communities; and
- WHEREAS,** NAHASDA enhances Tribal capacity to address substandard housing and infrastructure conditions in Indian Country by encouraging greater self-management of housing programs and leveraging of scarce Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) dollars; and
- WHEREAS,** NAHASDA establishes a formula for the IHBG based on Formula Current Assisted Stock (FCAS) and need; and
- WHEREAS,** federal lawsuits against the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) have been filed by Tribes and Tribal housing authorities related to FCAS Claims; and
- WHEREAS,** in FY 2008, HUD retained nearly \$20 Million of the IHBG as a means to pay Claims and, in FY 2009, may continue to retain IHBG funding for Claims; and
- WHEREAS,** so long as HUD holds back IHBG funding for Claims, funding for Native American housing programs is diminished, causing national harm to all Tribal housing programs; and
- WHEREAS,** the number of FCAS lawsuits and/or paid Claims has not been made available to the Tribes, nor has the total dollar amount in Claims been made available to Tribes; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors urges Department of Housing and Urban Development to disclose the number of unsettled Formula Current Assisted Stock lawsuits, the total dollar amount in claims for such lawsuits, and number and dollar amounts of claims paid by Department of Housing and Urban Development (if any); and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that Department of Housing and Urban Development should promptly disburse all Indian Housing Block Grant funds previously withheld in FY 2008 and should not be allowed to hold back any Indian Housing Block Grant funds in subsequent Fiscal Years for any Formula Current Assisted Stock claims; and, be it further

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RESOLVED appropriations made for Indian Housing Block Grants and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act be prohibited for use to pay Formula Current Assisted Stock claims.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 12, 2009.



Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



Robert McGhee, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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