



USET

SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION FUND

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USET SPF Resolution No. 2022 SPF:002

REQUESTING USET SPF REPRESENTATION ON THE AMERICA250 FOUNDATION'S TRIBAL ADVISORY GROUP AND TRIBAL LEADER REPRESENTATION ON THE FULL COMMITTEE

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an intertribal organization comprised of thirty-three (33) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET SPF Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nations' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission was established by Public Law 114-196 to plan for the 2026 commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission is a non-partisan, non-political organization comprised of members appointed by the leadership of the House and Senate after Congress unanimously passed the United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act in 2016; and
- WHEREAS,** today, this commission is composed of 16 private citizens, four U.S. Representatives and four Senators, and 12 ex-officio members representing all three branches of the federal government, as well other quasi-governmental and independent federal agencies; and
- WHEREAS,** the America250 Foundation was created by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission as a non-profit partner of the Commission and charged with planning for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** over the next several years leading up to the anniversary, the America250 Foundation has pledged to work with Tribal Nations, communities, states, federal agencies, and cultural and educational institutions to plan for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** on February 17, 2022, the Semiquincentennial Commission and America250 Foundation issued a Dear Tribal Leader Letter announcing the creation of a Tribal Advisory Group to ensure that Tribal Nations are invited to meaningfully shape and provide input on the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal Nations are independent sovereigns that pre-date the founding of the United States; and

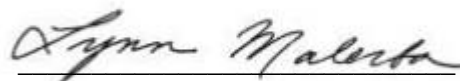
- WHEREAS,** Tribal Nations have made invaluable contributions to our country, including the cession of our lands and natural resources throughout the continent, thereby contributing to the immense wealth of the United States, as well as contributions of cultural and social significance; and
- WHEREAS,** the Iroquois Confederacy, and its Great Law of Peace, is a prominent example of these contributions to the United States, since it served as a model for the formation of the United States' government ideology and structure; and
- WHEREAS,** despite these invaluable contributions to the United States made by Tribal Nations, the public perception of Tribal Nations and Native peoples remains biased, inaccurate, and harmful to our progress; and
- WHEREAS,** because of these deeply held misperceptions, Native experiences and voices are largely invisible or fundamentally misrepresented in public discourse; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal Nations must have a voice in the planning of the commemoration for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States to ensure accurate representation of both our individual and shared histories; and
- WHEREAS,** in December 2010, the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET SPF Board of Directors requests that the America250 Foundation accept USET SPF as a member of the Tribal Advisory Group to provide our voice in the planning of the commemoration for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States; and be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET SPF Board of Directors also recommends that a Tribal Leader be appointed to the Full Committee of the America250 Foundation to ensure a Native voice is represented in the Full Committee meetings.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed by the USET SPF Executive Committee, at which a quorum was present on March 30, 2022.



Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund



Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund