SUPPORT FOR THE EXEMPTION OF ALL INDIAN PROGRAMS FROM THE MANDATORY PRESIDENTIAL GUIDANCE TO REDUCE FISCAL YEAR 2012 BUDGET LEVELS BY FIVE PERCENT

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 United States holds a special trust responsibility to Indian Tribes, that is confirmed through various treaties and executive orders; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Office of the President/Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued an executive memorandum on June 8, 2010 to all Executive Branch Agencies providing guidance for an across the board non-security discretionary budget reduction of 5%; and

WHEREAS, the budget appropriations administering Indian programs, services, functions and activities, is already severely underfunded and the 5% across the board reduction guidance for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 would further erode these programs; and

WHEREAS, additional budget reductions to Indian programs would jeopardize the health, safety, welfare, and overall well-being of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, USET has stated its opposition to the FY 2012 budget reduction guidance as part of its membership and involvement with the Department of Interior's Tribal Budget Advisory Council (TBAC); therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors calls for the exemption of all Indian programs from the mandatory Presidential budget reduction guidance being imposed for Fiscal Year 2012.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Mobile, AL, on Thursday, June 17, 2010.

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

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