



## United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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### USET Resolution No. 2012:005

#### **REQUESTING CONSULTATION IN IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY IN THE EXPENDITURE OF INDIAN HOUSING FUNDS**

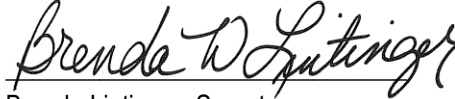
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) funding bill, as marked up by the House THUD appropriations subcommittee, contains, among other things, appropriations for the Indian housing programs, and has been released and marked up by the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development; and
- WHEREAS,** the FY 2012 THUD funding bill contains provisions requiring that dispersed Indian Housing Block Grant funds be available for only three years, with unexpended portions returning to the Treasury, and that no funds shall be awarded to any Indian Tribe that has over \$20 million in unexpended balances, excluding unexpended balances from FY 2011; and
- WHEREAS,** these provisions threaten the current practice of Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) funding based on need and determined by a formula, which will in any event be reviewed in FY 2013 when NAHASDA must be reauthorized; and
- WHEREAS,** Indian Tribes often face significant challenges expending NAHASDA funds in a timely and efficient manner, and many of these challenges relate directly to actions and policies of the Federal Government itself; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls on the Federal Government to support and facilitate communication with Indian Tribes to improve efficiency in the expenditure of Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 funds, and work to identify and resolve program policies and procedures that result in the delay of such funding expenditures; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors respectfully requests that congressional hearings be scheduled regarding ways to improve the efficiency in the expenditure of Indian housing funds; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests that no change be made to the current Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 funding formula until an adequate review and evaluation is conducted, including consultation with Indian Tribes, as a part of the reauthorization process.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Choctaw, MS, on Thursday, November 10, 2011.



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



Brenda Lintinger, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*