



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Nashville, TN Office:

711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37214
Phone: (615) 872-7900
Fax: (615) 872-7417

Washington, DC Office:

400 North Capitol Street, Suite 585
Washington, D.C., 20001
Phone: (202) 624-3550
Fax: (202) 393-5218

USET Resolution No. 2012:015

URGING CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIVE EDUCATION PRIORITIES IN THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

- 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,** Indian Country students continue to perform far below their potential in part of inadequacy within the school system and a lack of sufficient funding; and
- WHEREAS,** a wide range of Indian Country educational professionals worked with the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the development of legislation, which in June 2011, was introduced as S. 1262, the Native Culture, Language, and Access for Success in Schools (Native CLASS) Act; and
- WHEREAS,** the Native CLASS Act embodies proposals crucial to producing multiple and innovation revisions to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which have the potential to transform the education environment for Indian students; and
- WHEREAS,** the ESEA reauthorization introduced by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee included few of the authorities that Indian Country sought in the Native CLASS Act and neglected to provide the necessary language that our tribal schools and the Bureau of Indian Education need to ensure that our students will benefit equally from all the programs offered within the ESEA; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors strongly urges the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee to support the addition of the Native Culture, Language, and Access for Success in Schools Act to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors further urges the United States Congress to act on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act reauthorization, with Tribal priorities, as soon as possible to help address the ongoing crisis in Indian education.

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.