



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike • Suite 100 • Nashville, TN 37214
(P): 615-872-7900 • (F): 615-872-7417

USET Resolution No. 2011:059

TAX DISPUTE BETWEEN THE IROQUOIS CONFEDERACY AND THE STATE OF NEW YORK

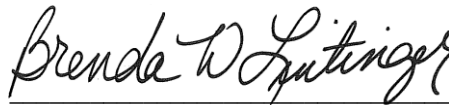
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** several USET member Tribes – the Cayuga Nation, Seneca Nation of Indians, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and Oneida Indian Nation – are members of the historic Iroquois Confederacy and are situated within the boundaries of the State of New York; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States entered into a historic treaty of peace with the Iroquois Confederacy Nations in the Treaty of Canandaigua on November 11, 1794, wherein the United States established perpetual peace and friendship with the Six Nations and firmly acknowledged their right to the “free use and enjoyment” of their lands, without disturbance from the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Andrew Cuomo, the Governor of the State of New York, is attempting to unilaterally impose unlawful cigarette taxes on the historic Iroquois Confederacy Nations and Tribes, threatening their territory-based economies; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions and the decisions of Governor Cuomo are being pursued without the approval of the affected Nations and Tribes and without proper regard for the treaties that exist between them and the United States Government; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon Governor Cuomo to respect the sovereignty of the Iroquois Confederacy Nations and Tribes and to work with them on a government-to-government basis; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon Governor Cuomo to engage in meaningful, bilateral discussions with the historic Iroquois Confederacy Nations and Tribes for purposes of finding a negotiated solution to the cigarette excise tax issue and any other areas of disagreement between the governments; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon President Barack Obama to intervene on behalf of the historic Iroquois Confederacy Nations and Tribes to ensure their treaty rights are protected against the predatory actions of New York State and its Governor.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Marksville, LA, Thursday, May 19, 2011.



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



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

“Because there is strength in Unity”