



# United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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## USET Resolution No. 2014:047

### **SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO TITLES I AND IV OF THE INDIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT**

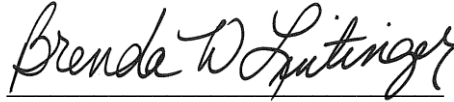
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** Indian Tribes are distinct, independent, political communities exercising powers of self-government by virtue of their own inherent sovereignty; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1975, Congress enacted the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), authorizing Indian Tribes to enter into contracts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) to receive funds and manage individual programs; and
- WHEREAS,** in a 2004 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on Indian economic development, GAO noted that Indian Tribes engaged in self-governance had greater gains in employment levels from 1990 to 2000 compared to Tribes that participated less in the program; and
- WHEREAS,** Congress has failed to pass previous legislation to amend Title IV of ISDEAA, as well as some important amendments to Title I of the ISDEAA; and
- WHEREAS,** Title I authorizes and sets forth criteria for the contracting program with the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), while Title IV authorizes and sets forth criteria for the self-governance program at DOI; 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 Board of Directors supports the enhancement of Tribal self-governance by, among other things, making the Department of Interior self-governance program consistent with its Indian Health Service counterpart in Title IV; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors urges Congress to work with Indian Country and Tribal nations to reintroduce and to enact legislation to amend Titles I and IV of the Indian Self Determination Education and Assistance Act.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Bar Harbor, ME, June 4, 2014.



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



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

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*