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 Tribal/Interior Budget Council (TBIC) establishes national Tribal budget priorities for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Annual Budget; and

WHEREAS, the TBIC will be convening in December 2014 in Washington, DC to formulate the Fiscal Year 2017 Bureau of Indian Affairs Budget Priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Eastern Regional TBIC Representatives need to be prepared to set forth regional budgetary priorities for consideration in the development of the Fiscal Year 2017 Bureau of Indian Affairs Budget Priorities; and,

WHEREAS, the USET Tribal Administration Committee has identified the following Fiscal Year 2017 top five funding priorities in each area:

For Tribal Programs:
- Aid to Tribal Government
- Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)
- Housing Improvement
- Social Services
- Tribal Courts

For Bureau of Indian Education:
- Scholarship & Adult Education
- Early Childhood Development (FACE)
- Education Program Enhancements
- Tribal Grant Support Costs
- Johnson O’ Malley Assistance Grants

For Administrative Services:
- Administrative Services (Regional)
- Human Services Program (Regional Oversight)
- Tribal Government Program (Regional Oversight)
- Trust/Real Estate Services (Regional Oversight)
- Assistant Secretary Support (Central); 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 respectfully requests the United States Congress to support the identified funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2017.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, December 4, 2014.

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

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

“Because there is strength in Unity”