



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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USET Resolution No. 2015:028

INCREASE TRIBAL HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM FUNDING FOR TRIBAL NATIONS AND PRESERVE THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

- 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 United States (U.S.) Congress has allocated a minimum of .1% of Homeland Security Grant (USDHSG) program funding to federally recognized Indian Tribes which totals less than \$2 million annually to serve all federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the USDHSG risk based consideration to determine eligibility creates two different classes of federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** each Tribe has a different level of capability, capacity, and need for homeland security and emergency management and a one size fits all approach is not an appropriate method of support for all federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** USET is encouraged by the increased funding that the Secretary of Homeland Security has allocated for Tribal grant programs; and
- WHEREAS,** the rights of self-determination and Tribal sovereignty are not upheld when the Congress abrogates its trust and treaty responsibility to the Indian Tribes by approving homeland security grant funds that requires the sovereign Tribal nations to request funding from states; 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 calls upon the United States Congress to increase the funding allocation for Tribal homeland security grant funding to at least 10% of the total amount appropriated to the states or \$20 million annually, whichever is greater, and appropriate at least an additional \$4 million annually to reinstate funding for the development and management of a Tribal emergency management assistance program; and be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests the United States Congress to amend all laws for grants-in-aid funding related to homeland security be passed directly to Tribes rather than through states; and be it finally

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors request the United States Congress amend the Homeland Security Act to allow all federally recognized Indian tribes to apply for such funding.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, February 12, 2015.



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



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

“Because there is strength in Unity”