



## United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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### USET Resolution No. 2015:029

#### **SUPPORT FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONGRESS TO REQUEST STUDIES CONCERNING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE IN TRIBAL NATIONS**

- 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,** little academic information exists concerning homeland security and emergency management in Tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS,** federal policy-makers and Tribal leaders need quality information to help shape funding and policy regarding Tribal emergency response; and
- WHEREAS,** quality information about the challenges of disaster recovery and response in Indian Country will help direct federal policies to create essential resources and services for Indian Country; and
- WHEREAS,** some specific recommendations and changes are needed to improve the Stafford Act and the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) implementation of programs in Indian Country to produce more effective disaster planning, preparedness, and capacity building; 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 requests the Administration and United States Congress to commission studies from the Government Accountability Office and the Congressional Research Service to examine disaster preparedness and response in Indian Country and share information among federal agencies and Tribal Nations to better understand the unmet needs of Tribal communities when disaster strike.

#### **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.