



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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USET Resolution No. 2016:014

PRIORITIES FOR THE 2015 WHITE HOUSE TRIBAL NATIONS CONFERENCE

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nation's leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal Nations hold a unique status within the United States (U.S.) with the rights and benefits of sovereign nations; and
- WHEREAS,** this relationship is grounded in the U.S. Constitution, specifically, the Indian Commerce Clause, the Treaty Clause and the Supremacy Clause, and in numerous treaties, laws, statutes and agreements between the U.S. and Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** President Barack Obama has distinguished himself by recognizing this relationship and promoting its importance through his words and actions; and
- WHEREAS,** the seventh annual White House Tribal Nations Conference (WHTNC) will be hosted in Washington, DC on November 5, 2015; and
- WHEREAS,** approaching the final months of the Obama Administration, there remains a number of USET priorities awaiting resolution that should be addressed at the WHTNC, including:
- Trust Modernization
 - Carcieri and Land-into-Trust
 - Tribal Employer Relief from the Affordable Care Act's Employer Mandate
 - Passage of the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act
 - Full Implementation of the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act
 - Advance Appropriations for the Indian Health Service
 - Mandatory funding for Contract Support Costs
 - Tribal Leader Participation on the White House Council on Native Affairs
 - A Full Accounting of the \$20 billion in federal funding that the Office of Management and Budget Contends is Reaching Indian Country
 - Opportunities for Institutionalizing the Advances of the Obama Administration
 - Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; 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 hereby requests full consideration of the preceding priorities during the 2015 White House Tribal Nations Conference; and, be it further

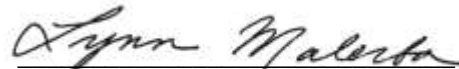
RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors urges the Obama Administration to give precedence to the preceding priorities as it identifies issues to act upon during the last months of the Administration.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Choctaw, MS, on October 28, 2015.



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



Lynn Malerba, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

“Because there is strength in Unity”