



Nashville TN Office 711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Ste. 100 Nashville TN 37214 P: (615) 872-7900 F: (615) 872-7417

Washington DC Office 400 North Capitol St., Ste. 585 Washington DC 20001 P: (202) 624-3550 F: (202) 393-5218

USET SPF Resolution No. 2018 SPF:011

SUPPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 EASTERN REGION TRIBAL BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

- WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-seven (27) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET SPF Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nations' leadership; and
- **WHEREAS,** the United States has a trust responsibility to Tribal Nations that is confirmed through various treaties and executive orders; and
- WHEREAS, adequate funding for Tribal governmental services, energy, justice, the protection of natural resources and environmental programs is essential to the health, social and economic wellbeing of Tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is in the process of formulating the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 budget for submission to the United States Department of Interior; and
- **WHEREAS,** through regional consultation, Tribal Nations are afforded the opportunity to determine the regional priority needs to be reflected in the regional BIA budget process; and
- WHEREAS, the USET SPF Tribal Nations have identified Tribal priorities for inclusion in the FY 2020 BIA Eastern Region testimony based on Tribal feedback; 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 SPF Board of Directors determines that the preferred priorities and related percentage increase allocations for Fiscal Year 2020 Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Region will be as follows:
 - 1) Social Services at 21 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 2) Indian Child Welfare Act at 27 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 3) Aid to Tribal Government at 14 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 4) Tribal Courts at 14 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 5) Road Maintenance at 9 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 6) Scholarships and Adult Education at 9 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 7) Criminal Investigations & Police Services at 8 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 8) Housing Program at 4 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;
 - 9) Job Placement & Training Grants at 4 percent of the 5 percent funding increase;

- 10) Fire Protection at 4 percent of the 5 percent funding increase; and, be it further
- **RESOLVED** the USET SPF Board of Directors respectfully requests that the Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Regional Office support, incorporate and advance the identified funding priorities in the Fiscal Year 2020 regional budget submission.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET SPF Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, February 8, 2018.

Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund

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Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund

Because there is Strength in Unity