UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. USET 96:14

INDIAN HOUSING: A SEPARATE AND DISTINCT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-three (23) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET, Inc. Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and

WHEREAS, the government of the United States has pledged a trust responsibility to all American Indians through treaties and past agreements; and

WHEREAS, part of this trust agreement is to encourage self determination through economic development, to provide educational opportunities and to provide decent, safe, standard and affordable housing for American Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Housing Program has been subject to actions under the shadow of the Public Housing Program; and

WHEREAS, many facets of the Public Housing Program (deemed an entitlement) is in jeopardy of continued legislative support; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Housing Program as part of this trust responsibility has concrete evidence that it is a viable, efficient program and an avenue of aid to American Indian communities; and

WHEREAS, Congress has already endeavored to support the separation of Indian Housing Regulations from Public Housing Regulations by enactment of the Indian Housing Bill of 1988

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors recommends enactment of a bill that would solidify the trust responsibility of the U.S. Government to American Indians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the enactment of this bill, The Indian Housing Program Bill of 1996 should provide for adequate funding for new housing construction, regulation and oversight based on its own merit as a separate and distinct program.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Washington Impact Week Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC, on February 8, 1996.

Keller George, President
United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Philip Tarbell, Secretary
United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"