



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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Resolution No. 98:05

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM DOJ/BIA

**WHEREAS**, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-three (23) federally recognized tribes; and

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

**WHEREAS**, President Clinton, in the historic Executive Order, has reinforced the federal policy supporting self-determination for Indian tribes and has directed federal agencies to deal with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Presidential Executive Order, the Department of Justice has openly committed itself to strengthening and assisting Indian tribal governments in their development and to promoting Indian self-governance through the adoption of the "Department of Justice Policy on Indian Sovereignty and Government-to-Government Relations with Indian Tribes"; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the Department of Justice to consult with tribal governments concerning law enforcement priorities, to defend the lawful exercise of tribal governmental powers, and to assist Indian tribes in the development of their law enforcement systems, tribal courts, and traditional justice systems; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors request that the Department of Justice and the Department of Interior delay any decision on the options presented in the Executive Committee report on the proposed transfer of responsibility for the administration of tribal law enforcement and tribal court functions from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Department of Justice, until such time as the tribal leaders have an opportunity to fully assess the total impact that their initiative will have on Indian Country; be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors request the Department of Justice and the Department of Interior to set aside sufficient amount of funds to cover the costs of a consultation process concerning this transfer.

### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly approved at the USET Annual Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present in Philadelphia, Mississippi on Thursday, October 30, 1997.

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

Beverly Wright, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.