USET Resolution No. 2000:45

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUNDING INCREASE

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-three (23) 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, Section 101(d)(2) of the National Historical Preservation Act (NHPA) as amended provides for tribes to assume duties of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on tribal lands; and

WHEREAS, NHPA as amended provides for congressional funding of these Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO); and

WHEREAS, the new NHPA Section 106 Regulations mandate that federal agencies consult with Tribes on all undertakings as defined in NHPA which has resulted in a substantial additional burden of time and work on the part of tribes; and

WHEREAS, the funding level for THPOs has remained static at the same time that the number of tribes qualifying for 101(d)(2) status has increased exponentially resulting in a significant decrease in funding for these THPO offices; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service (NPS) requested an increase to $5.2 million from the current $2.574 million in the FY 2000 Budget for the Historic Preservation Fund from which funding is received by the THPOs; and

WHEREAS, the requested increase was eliminated by OMB in their review process and never submitted to Congress; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors requests Congress increased funding of the Historic Preservation Fund in the NPS Budget for FY 2001 to a level which provides at least adequate funding for all THPO offices.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C. Thursday, February 3, 2000.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"