



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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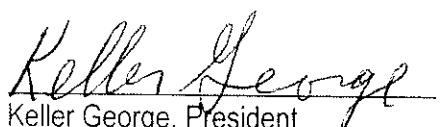
USET Resolution No. 2003:045

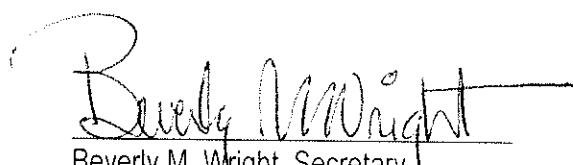
### TRIBAL HOMELAND SECURITY NEEDS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty four (24) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the Board of Directors officially represents the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET tribes strongly believe that tribal governments should be included in the planning, coordination, and funding for the National Homeland Security Plans including Bio-Terrorism resources; and
- WHEREAS,** current allocation of Department of Homeland Security funding is being provided to the 50 states and is not being made available to the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** The Department of Homeland Security has already identified tribal lands on international borders as being areas of special concern to the security of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** the newly created Department of Homeland Security has a trust responsibility to all Tribal nations, and
- WHEREAS,** other federal agencies have developed American Indian Policies and American Indian Offices within their Department in order to assure fulfillment of the Department's Trust Responsibility to tribes; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports a legislative amendment to truly define governments by including Tribes as eligible government entities for the purpose of receiving direct funding to support Tribal Homeland Security needs; and , be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the creation of a Native American Policy and Tribal Relations Office within the Department of Homeland Security to assure the Homeland Security Department's fulfillment of its fiduciary Trust Responsibility to the tribes and implementation of Executive Order #13175 Consultation and Coordination with Native American Tribal Governments.

#### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA Thursday, February 6, 2003.

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

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

***“Because there is strength in Unity”***