SUPPORT OF AMERIND

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 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, USET represents Indian housing authorities or tribally designated housing entities within the geographic boundaries of USET member tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA), 25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq., requires recipients to maintain adequate insurance coverage for housing units assisted by federal block grants; and

WHEREAS, the federal regulations implementing NAHASDA, 25 CFR 1000.138, permit recipients to satisfy this requirement either through the purchase of insurance or a plan of self-insurance; and

WHEREAS, with the support of the United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) in 1986 formed an Indian housing risk pool, known as AMERIND Risk Management Corporation (AMERIND), under provisions implementing the United States Housing Act of 1937, but those provisions, for reasons unknown, were not carried over to NAHASDA; and

WHEREAS, the federal regulations implementing NAHASDA do not currently address the requirements for a plan of self-insurance, such as an Indian housing risk pool; and

WHEREAS, before the enactment of NAHASDA, HUD authorized, approved, and regulated Indian housing risk pools, such as AMERIND, under provisions implementing the United States Housing Act of 1937;

WHEREAS, USET, and its membership, comprised of Indian housing authorities or tribally designated housing entities, desire a regulatory provision authorizing, approving, and regulating Indian housing risk pools to protect pool assets and to provide a uniform national rule governing Indian housing risk pools; and

WHEREAS, USET finds that it is in the best interest of its member tribes to request HUD promulgate a federal regulation setting forth requirements for Indian housing risk pools; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors hereby supports the efforts of AMERIND to negotiate a uniform national rule or rules authorizing, approving, and regulating Indian housing risk pools; and, be it further

RESOLVED that USET hereby requests HUD enter into and participate with AMERIND in negotiated rulemaking or other authorized procedure to promulgate a uniform national rule or rules governing Indian housing risk pools.

"Because there is strength in Unity"
USET Resolution No. 2003:070

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

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