USET Resolution No. 2005:046

SUPPORT FOR S. 672 - INDIAN AND ALASKAN NATIVE FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION SERVICES AMENDMENTS OF 2005

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, in 1981 Congress enacted the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance Act, which provides entitlement funding for foster care and adoption assistance services for income eligible children placed by the state; and

WHEREAS, S. 672, the "Indian and Alaskan Native Foster Care and Adoption Services Amendments of 2005" introduced in the United States Senate on March 17, 2005, amends Title IV-E to provide Tribal governments the option to apply directly to the federal government for these funds, as well as continue the practice of Tribal/State agreements if the Tribes so choose; and

WHEREAS, S. 672 also allows Tribes to designate their own service population, use their own foster care standards, apply as part of a Tribal consortia and use a variety of funding sources to help reach match requirements of Title IV-E, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors supports the passage of S. 672, the Indian and Alaskan Native Foster Care and Adoption Services Amendments of 2005 in the 109th Congress and recognizes the importance of allowing Tribes more direct control of their foster care and adoption services programs.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Mashantucket, CT, on Thursday, June 30, 2005.

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

Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"