USET Resolution No. 2005:056

OPPOSITION TO BOXING AMENDMENTS ACT 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, on October 9, 1996, Congress enacted the Professional Boxing Safety Act, P.L. 104-272, 110 STAT. 3309 et seq. (codified at 16 U.S.C. § 8301 et seq.), to regulate professional boxing within the United States; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority vested in the USET member tribes, by virtue of their sovereignty and powers of self-government, as well as federal law, several USET member tribes have established tribal organizations to regulate professional boxing events held on their reservations for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, and welfare of all persons engaged in such activities and that of members of the USET tribes and their guests; and

WHEREAS, on October 28, 1999, USET Resolution No. 2003:003 was passed at the USET Annual Board of Directors Meeting authorizing the formation of the USET Athletic Association; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the USET Athletic Association includes volunteer member tribes who have established tribal organizations to regulate professional boxing events on their reservations, as well as member tribes who desire to do so; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the USET Athletic Association is to: (a) encourage communication, cooperation, and support among its members, and (b) promote the standardization and uniformity of athletic health and safety regulations and other rules governing the conduct of professional boxing events in accordance with tribal and federal law; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2005, the Senate passed the “Professional Boxing Amendments Act of 2005” amending the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 and establishing the United States Boxing Commission to administer the Act (S.148); and

WHEREAS, presently pending in the House of Representatives is similar legislation sponsored by Representatives Peter King (H.R. 489) and Cliff Stearns (H.R.1069); and

WHEREAS, certain aspects of such legislation are inconsistent with tribal sovereignty, self-governance and self-regulation, the legislation is opposed by the USET Athletic Association and the boxing and athletic commissions of all USET tribes; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors endorses the opposition of the USET Athletic Association and the member tribal athletic commissions to said proposed legislation and hereby authorizes efforts to defeat the passage of said proposed legislation; and, be it further

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors will use its best efforts to lobby against the passage of the foregoing legislation.

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"