



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

---

---


USET Resolution No. 2005:057


### REQUEST THAT PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY PANEL ON FEDERAL TAX REFORM ACKNOWLEDGE THE NON-TAXABLE STATUS OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

- 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,** Indian tribes are sovereign indigenous nations, with rights of self-government that pre-date the formation of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, and numerous Executive orders and directives acknowledge the sovereign status of Indian Tribes as sovereign governments; and
- WHEREAS,** on January 7, 2005, President Bush signed an Executive Order (as amended on June 16, 2005) establishing the nine-member President's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform and
- WHEREAS,** the Executive Order directs the Advisory Panel to prepare and submit a report by September 30, 2005, with revenue neutral policy options for reforming the Internal Revenue Code; and
- WHEREAS,** the Advisory Panel is authorized to conduct meetings and solicit information and advise from all Americans, including state, local and Tribal governments in preparing this report; and
- WHEREAS,** certain legislative proposals for tax reform currently under consideration in Congress ignore the governmental status of Indian Tribes and would impose tax on Tribal revenues; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors urges the Advisory Panel to consult with Indian Tribes and respect their sovereignty and status as governments in crafting recommendations regarding a reformation of the federal tax code and, therefore be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors contact the Advisory Panel, in writing or otherwise provide information regarding the unique nature of the Tribes' government-to-government relationship and urge that the Panel's report acknowledge the non-taxable status of federally recognized Tribes.

#### 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”*