



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

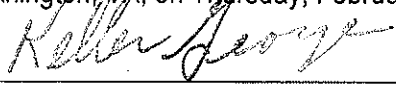
USET Resolution No. 2006:038


SUPPORT FOR UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC. AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS WORK TO STOP ILLEGAL LOOTING AND TRAFFICKING OF AMERICAN INDIAN REMAINS AND ITEMS

- 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,** the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) and Indian Tribes share the goal of upholding Federal, state and Tribal laws regarding looting and trafficking of American Indian remains, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony; and
- WHEREAS,** the theft and resultant sale of American Indian remains and items continues to occur on the Internet and in subversive methods established by professional and amateur thieves around the world; and
- WHEREAS,** there is to date no systematic effort to track the theft and resultant sale of American Indian remains and items on American soil; and
- WHEREAS,** there is to date no concerted and effective Federal or Federal-Tribal effort to prevent thefts on American soil; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1992, Congress directed the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of illegal interstate and international traffic in antiquities, including archaeological, curatorial, and architectural objects, and historical documents of all kinds, and the suitability and feasibility of alternatives for controlling illegal interstate and international traffic in antiquities; and
- WHEREAS,** to date, no such study has been done; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States has and continues to expend million of dollars for the protection and attempt to recapture foreign or non-domestic cultural items as a result of world affairs; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) is coordinating an effort to work with the Federal Government and interested Tribal governments to convene a series of meetings and seminars on this topic of interest to all Americans; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors looks forward to working with the NATHPO to seek funds to convene Tribal governments, law enforcers, and other stakeholders to develop solutions to stop the illegal looting and trafficking of American Indian remains and items.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 9, 2006.


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”