WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-five (25) 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 Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) is comprised of housing programs for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages, and is currently up for reauthorization; and

WHEREAS, NAHASDA affords Indian Tribes the opportunity to fulfill the promise of self-sufficiency and become providers of housing for their populations by returning key decisions from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to Indian Tribes; and

WHEREAS, it is sadly still the case that more than 11 percent of American Indian homes lack plumbing, far higher than the 1.2 percent for the rest of the United States. One in five American Indians live in overcrowded homes; on some reservations, as many as 25 to 30 people live in a three-bedroom house; and

WHEREAS, Indian Country needs NAHASDA amended, extended and reauthorized because it is one of a dozen major laws relating to the welfare of Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives; and

WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives has approved H.R.2786 – the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2007 and the Senate has introduced S.2062; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors supports passage of S. 2062 the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Reauthorization Act of 2007 and encourages the United States Senate to act swiftly on S. 2062.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, Thursday, February 14, 2008.

Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Cheryl Downing, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"