



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2009:004

SUPPORT FOR TITLE IX, SAFETY FOR INDIAN WOMEN ACT, PUBLIC LAW 109-562

- 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 United States (U.S.) Congress has authorized Title IX, the Safety for Indian Women Act, as a part of Public Law 109-562, the Violence Against Women and U.S. Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005; and
- WHEREAS,** Title IX provides much needed funding to support American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities in their efforts to combat domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and teen dating violence that affects every tribal community, and
- WHEREAS,** over the past decade, Federal government studies have consistently shown that AI/AN women experience much higher levels of sexual violence than other women in the U.S.; and
- WHEREAS,** U.S. Department of Justice data indicates that AI/AN are more than 2.5 times more likely to be raped or sexually assaulted and this same data shows that 34.1% of AI/AN women - or more than one in three - will be raped during their lifetime; and
- WHEREAS,** the Safety for Indian Women Act was passed to combat the high rates of domestic violence and recognized that AI/AN women experience violent crime at a rate of 23.2 per 1,000, compared with 8 per 1,000 among Caucasian women; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports continued and increased funding for Title IX, Safety for Indian Women Act and in particular supports increased funding for the Grants to Tribal Governments Program and the Tribal Women's Coalition Program that are funded out of this office.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed by the USET Board of Directors on Thursday, October 16, 2008.

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

Robert McGhee, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.