



USET Resolution No. 2009:023

**SUPPORT FOR ENACTMENT OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOMEOWNERSHIP
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2009**

- 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, Alaska Native villages and Native Hawaiian communities; and
- WHEREAS,** on October 14, 2008, the President of the United States signed into law H.R. 2786, an Act of Congress to amend and reauthorize NAHASDA through 2013; and
- WHEREAS,** H.R. 2786 enhances Tribal capacity to address substandard housing and infrastructure conditions in Indian country by encouraging greater self-management of housing programs and leveraging of scarce Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) dollars; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2000, NAHASDA was amended to create Title VIII, to address the housing needs of Native Hawaiians and create the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG); and
- WHEREAS,** sadly, the reauthorization of NAHASDA in 2008 did not include the Native Hawaiian provisions; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors has consistently supported housing programs for Native Hawaiians and, in particular, reauthorization of Title VIII of NAHASDA, which establishes the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG); and
- WHEREAS,** funding for the IHBG and NHHBG are completely separate appropriations line-items; and
- WHEREAS,** the Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunity Act of 2009 (S. 72 and H.R. 709) was introduced in the 111th Congress to reauthorize and amend Title VIII of NAHASDA and extend to Native Hawaiians Section 184A loan guarantee and Title VI loan guarantee authority; and
- WHEREAS,** upon becoming law, this legislation will ensure the Native Hawaiian community will continue to have access to low-income housing funds and loan guarantees, as well as capital to finance housing-related physical infrastructure; therefore be it

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RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors urges the United States Congress to swiftly enact the Native Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunity Act of 2009.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 12, 2009.



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



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

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