



USET Resolution No. 2009:049

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A SELF-GOVERNANCE BILL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FUNDED TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

- 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,** General Assistance Program (GAP) funding from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has become increasingly restrictive by narrow definition as developing Tribal capacity in implementing environmental programs; and
- WHEREAS,** many USET Tribes have used GAP funding to develop capacity to implement environmental programs that monitor and develop means to regulate actions impacting Tribal lands and need a funding mechanism to facilitate these actions that exist outside the current criteria for GAP funding; and
- WHEREAS,** the Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning & Review); Executive Order 12988 (Civil Justice Reform), OMB Circular A-19, and the Executive Memorandum signed April 29, 1994, on Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments, and Executive Order 13084 signed May 14, 1998: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments define funding mechanisms through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Services for Tribal Programs under the Self-Governance Act with proven regulatory oversight; and
- WHEREAS,** a similar funding mechanism for EPA GAP program funding would provide Tribes efficient and holistic use of EPA funding to implement Tribal Environmental Programs; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the introduction and advancement of Tribal Self-Governance Legislation for the Environmental Protection Agency regarding Tribal Environmental Programs.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Marksville, LA, on Thursday, May 14, 2009.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"