

**STATEMENT  
OF  
SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE  
CHAIRMAN  
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS  
BEFORE THE  
JUNE 26, 2001 HEARING  
ON THE  
GOALS AND PRIORITIES  
OF THE  
MEMBER TRIBES  
OF THE  
GREAT PLAINS TRIBAL CHAIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE  
107<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE CONGRESS**

The Committee meets this morning to receive testimony from the Member Tribes of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Association on Their goals and priorities for the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Congress.

This hearing is the fifth in a series of hearings to gather this information from Tribal Governments across the country.

The Committee has also participated in two Tribal Leaders Forums, in the Pacific Northwest and in Southern California, for the same purpose.

Testimony received from all of the Tribes will not only be published in the Record of Hearings, but a compendium of the goals and priorities identified by the Tribal Governments will be published upon conclusion of these hearings.

The goals and objectives that Indian Country has identified as priorities will guide the continuing development and refinement of the Committee's legislative agenda for the 107<sup>th</sup> session of the Congress.

We would like to invite all of our witnesses today to join us at 2:00 p.m. today in this room for a discussion of a legislative approach to the taking of land into trust.

Now, on behalf of the members of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, I welcome all of the witnesses here this morning. We look forward to receiving your testimony.