

STATEMENT
OF
SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE
CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS
BEFORE THE
OCTOBER 9, 2002 HEARING
ON
S. 2694, THE THOMASINA E. JORDAN INDIAN TRIBES OF
VIRGINIA FEDERAL RECOGNITION ACT OF 2002

I have to leave shortly for the conference on the Department of Defense Appropriations bill, but I wanted to be here to welcome our colleague from the House, Congressman Jim Moran, as well as our colleagues who make up the Virginia delegation in the Senate, and to commend all of you for your support of the bill that is before the Committee today.

I have read your statements, and I believe you make a compelling case for the Virginia tribes that your bills seek to address.

I am particularly grateful that you have identified and appreciate the difference between Federal recognition and other matters for which there are separate process and distinct thresholds that must be met – such

as the taking of land into trust, and the conduct of gaming activities.

The prepared statement of our colleague from the House, Congressman Jim Moran, details a sad and tragic history, and gentlemen, I want to assure you that this Committee will work with you and the Virginia tribes to develop a new chapter in our history books – one of which we can all be proud.