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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6450

ALLISON BINNEY, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
DAVID A. MULLON JR., MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

January 13, 2010

Dear Friend:

As you may have already heard, I announced last week that I was not going to seek re-election to the U.S. Senate later this year.

I wanted to write you this letter to tell you that although I am not seeking a new six year term in the Senate, I am going to continue my work in the United States Senate until the end of this year, and that includes my work as Chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee.

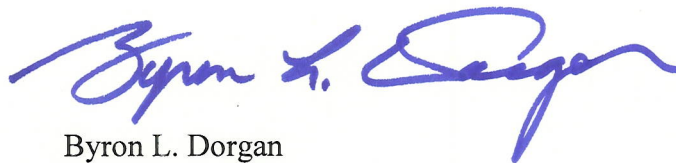
I pledge to you to continue an aggressive fight this year on a broad range of issues that confront tribal governments. I will work to get the Indian Healthcare Improvement Act reauthorization signed into law, and also take initial steps towards broader reform to improve Indian health care services. Our Committee will continue its work on the Tribal Law and Order Act and other proposals to improve public safety in Indian country. I will also work to address Indian energy development and related economic development measures, work to gain congressional approval of the *Cobell* lawsuit settlement, and continue work on important Indian water rights settlements. Finally, I want to ensure that strong tribal provisions are included in reauthorizations of national transportation and education laws.

It is a great privilege to serve as Chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee and I will continue to work with you on all of these important issues to ensure that Congress, today and in the future, upholds its treaty and trust obligations to all federally recognized Indian tribes.

My decision to not seek re-election was a difficult one. But after serving 40 years in statewide elected office, including 30 of those in the U.S. Congress, I decided it was time for me to do some other things in life.

But in this one year remaining in the U.S. Senate, I pledge to do everything I can to make it productive for you and the interests of American Indians. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,



Byron L. Dorgan
Chairman