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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6100

March 14, 2001

Shaun L. McGrath, Program Manager
Western Governors' Association
1515 Cleveland Place
Suite 200
Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Mr. McGrath:

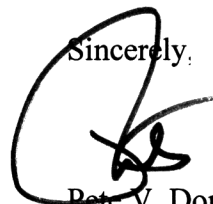
I am writing to again voice my support for negotiated Indian land and water settlements. Thank you, also, for your kind invitation to speak on this issue at your "Congressional Briefing" scheduled for April 24th. I would be pleased to join you.

In regard to the specific issue of Indian land and water settlements, I want to assure you that I have assumed funding for all the current land and water settlements in my draft budget for FY 2002. Further, I support a cap adjustment for Indian land and water settlements.

It is my intention to introduce legislation that would permit an adjustment to statutory discretionary spending limits for appropriations for previously authorized settlements, to the extent they are not assumed in the President's appropriation request. However, we must first determine the overall budget caps for the coming years before we include such an adjustment.

As always, I appreciate your efforts to keep me informed and involved in important issues such as this; and I look forward to your briefing on April 24th.

Sincerely,



Pete V. Domenici
Chairman