

June 28, 2006

Senator Orrin G Hatch
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510-4402

Senator Robert F. Bennett
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510-4403

Dear Senators:

Over the past year's a number of letters have been written and sent to officials of both political parties who have been elected to represent the citizens of the great State of Utah, State and Federal. These letters I refer to were inquiries on the subject of the Ute Partition Act (UPA.) Some letter writers received a reply but most went unanswered.

In 1973, the Congress of the United States change their position and repudiated termination, which lead to the repeal of these termination acts and restored the Federal recognition of those America Indian Tribes who were terminated in the early 1950's. That is all but one. That act which is still Federal Law is the Ute Partition Act of 1954.

I for one have read every excuse each politician have made over the year's on why they can't, or should I say won't, repeal the UPA. This letter is not about asking you to help those American Indians who have been suffering for fifty-two years under the UPA.

I'm writing to ask the question why has Congress failed to fully implement the UPA. According to U.S. Code, Title 25, Chapter 14, Subchapter XXVIII, § 677w. "Within three months after August 27, 1954, the business committee of the tribe representing the full-blood group thereof shall present to the Secretary a development program calculated to assist in making the tribe and the members thereof self-supporting, without any special Government assistance, with a view of eventually terminating all Federal supervision of the tribe and its members."

I believe Fifty-Two years is long enough for the business committee of the Ute Tribe to develop a program making the tribe and its members self-supporting and should now have their Federal supervision terminated.

Isn't it about time Congress stopped dragging their feet on this issue? You, as the Senators from Utah have a duty to make sure this law is fulfill as it was intended when it was passed in 1954.

Sincerely

Earl Denver
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C.C. Dennis G. Chappabitty
Oranna B. Felter.
Senator Dianne Feinstein (CA)
Senator Barbara Boxer (CA)