

for tribal museums. Under the Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program, tribes can receive grants of up to \$20,000 a year. The museum program, and a similar program to support tribal libraries, are both administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Program in the National Park Service gives tribes control of decisions about cultural preservation on tribal lands by establishing tribal historic preservation offices, just like State historic preservation offices.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, passed in 1990, lays out a process to identify Native American sacred and funerary objects and return them to their people.

In Sisseton Wahpeton, tribal elders and educators hope to use technology to record translation sessions of the Dakota Letters and use the recordings to teach the Dakota language. They also want to use distance learning to teach Dakota history and culture lessons based on the letters. They can't do that now because they have run out of money for the Dakota Letters project. An amendment Senator INOUE is sponsoring to the Native American Languages Act might help the tribe finish the Dakota Letters project. It would provide additional resources for immersion schools and other intensive efforts to save Native American languages—which we are now losing at the alarming rate of one each month.

All of these efforts, and more, need and deserve the support of Congress.

Newspaper accounts of the executions of the Dakota prisoners at Mankato note that the men met their deaths with courage and dignity, chanting a Dakota death song. One reporter recorded that their final words were a simple plea for recognition: "I am here."

Those same words echo from every ancient corner of this Nation. Long before Europeans and others arrived, Native Americans were here. And they are still here today, greatly enriching our national identity and culture. On this happy and historic day, as we celebrate the opening of America's spectacular new National Museum of the American Indian, let us also celebrate the Native American history and culture that exists all across America. And let us vow to work together to preserve that history and culture everywhere it exists.

EXHIBIT 1

1. mitakuye ito wowapi cicage kta wacin nakaha wotanin naonhonpi
2. Well, my relative, I want to give you this paper now we have heard news
3. Well, my relative I wish to write you a letter, we have heard news.

1. tonkansidan ktepi keyapi
2. They said they killed Grandfather.
3. They have said that Grandfather (Abraham Lincoln) was killed.

1. tuka hecen tuwe taku tanyan onkokiyakapi kta iyecece sni
2. But then someone should tell us if this is not true.

3. But someone of authority should tell us if this is not true.

1. hecen mitakuye wowapi cicu
2. Thus, my relative, I give you this paper

3. Thus, I write to you this letter.

1. eya taku wanjikj nawahon
2. To say, I have heard several rumors

3. Also I have heard some rumors

1. tonkansidan he onsiondapi qa dehyanan nionyakonpi

2. Grandfather had compassion for us, and so far we are still alive

3. Grandfather has compassion for us, and so far we are still alive.

1. tuka hecen nakaha ktepi keyapi heon cante onsicapi

2. but then now they killed him they said therefore our hearts are sad.

3. but they told us he was killed, and we are saddened.

1. tona onkiyukcanpi hecinhan ehna cante onsicapi

2. Some we think if this is so, we are heartbroken.

3. Those of us here think if this is so, we are heartbroken.

1. hehan hecan isantanka kin hecen token kante onkiyuzanti kta naceca

2. Then this Big Knives the thus how heart hold us will maybe

3. Perhaps the attitude of the calvary soldiers may change toward us.

1. idukcan hecinhan omayakidaka wacin qa heon wowapi cicage ye do

2. what you think, if you tell me, I want, therefore paper I make for you.

3. Tell me what your thoughts are, I want to know, that's why I write to you.

1. hehan tonkansidan token ktepi hecinhan he tanyan nawahon kta wacin

2. then Grandfather how they killed him if this is good I hear will I want.

3. Then I wish to hear exactly how they killed Grandfather.

1. hehan eya anpetu waken eca token owakihni waokun wicawakiye

2. Then to say day holy when how I am able to preach to them

3. Then, also on Sundays when I am able I do the preach to them.

1. henana epe kte owasin nape ciyuzapi

2. That's all, I say will all hand they shake,

3. This is all I'm going to say, I shake all your hands.

Mowis Itewakanhdiota—he miye
Moses Many Lightning Face—This is me.

Translation key:

1. original Dakota
2. Dakota to English
3. English translation

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my leader comments not be taken from the first hour of the Democratic allocation of time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, will the minority leader yield?

Mr. DASCHLE. I am happy to yield to the Senator from Delaware.

ASBESTOS EXPOSURE

Mr. CARPER. I thank the Senator. The minority leader has spoken about the injustice done to the Dakota over a century ago, and we are endeavoring this year in this Congress to address another injustice; that is, the injustice where people are sick and dying from asbestos exposure and are not getting the money they and their families need. People who are not sick are drawing off money that should be going to those who desperately need it. We have companies going bankrupt, with people being displaced and losing their jobs. It is a bad situation, a terrible situation. We can fix it.

I thank my leader for his extraordinary courage in pushing forward a proposal to further narrow our differences with our Republican colleagues. If you think about all of the areas of progress, we have agreed there should be a trust fund, we have agreed there should be a trust fund, and on how it should be administered; we have agreed on how much money should go into the trust fund; we have agreed the money should be fully allocated to meet the claims out there; we have agreed on medical criteria; we have agreed on 10 different levels of impairment. We have basically agreed on the claims. While there are several areas in which we still have some differences to agree on, we have made extraordinary progress.

I commend Senator DASCHLE for his leadership in getting us close to this point. I have urged Senator FRIST, who has left the floor, to invite Senator DASCHLE to sit down and resolve the remaining differences between the two leaders.

This can be done, and it should be done this year, and we should not leave here without completing this job.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, if I may respond to the distinguished Senator, I compliment him on his insistence and extraordinary determination. One of the reasons we have made progress is because of his great persistence and his ability to bring together the consensus that is so necessary if we are going to achieve final success. As he has noted, we have come a long way. It has been my pleasure to work with him as we have traveled the road together to reach this point where we find, as he has noted, just a few differences. It is my hope we can still work it out prior to the end of this session of Congress. I thank him for his kind words and for his leadership.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

NATIVE AMERICAN MUSEUM

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I congratulate the leader for his statement about the opening of the Native American Museum today, and also for his