

GOVERNOR MAY INTRODUCE LAND MEASURE NEXT WEEK

May Be Awaiting Task Force Consideration Of Bill Next Tuesday

Word is circulating around responsible circles that Governor Walter J. Hickel may introduce the compromise land bill that was drawn up by his Native Land Claims Task Force Committee, the State and the Department of the Interior.

It is said that the Governor is waiting for the Task Force consideration of the bill when that committee meets next week on Tuesday Feb. 6 in Anchorage. The consideration of the bill by the Task Force is expected to come out favorably and pave the way for introduction in the state legislature.

A similar land bill was reportedly introduced in Congress yesterday and the man who introduced it was believed to be Sen. Ernest Gruening. State Attorney General Edgar P. Boyko was in Washington yesterday probably to explain the particulars of the measure.

President of the Alaska

Federation of Natives Emil Notti told Tundra Times that the first order of the Task Force meeting next Tuesday will be the consideration of the compromise bill.

After this consideration, the Governor is expected to introduce the measure.

"That would be a big help if he did, I think," said Emil Notti.

It is also reported that five senators who are members of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, mentioned some weeks ago, will be attending the land claims hearing in Anchorage on Feb. 8-10. They are:

Senators Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., chairman; Frank E. Moss, D-Utah; Paul J. Fannin, R-Ariz.; Quentin N. Burdick, D-N. Dak.; and Ernest Gruening, D-Alaska.

Emil Notti said that he expects the full 39-member Land Claims Task Force to be present next Tuesday. Preliminary meetings of that body will be held in the Kaloa Building at 10:00 a.m. and continue on until the land claims hearing on Feb. 8-10.

Notti also expressed dis-

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appointment when he learned that the Bureau of Indian Affairs is only going to furnish transportation for 25 additional native people to the land hearing.

"I think it's a crime that the BIA refuses to bring in more native people for the Senate land hearings," said Notti. "This is a historic event for the native people and the BIA can only bring 25."

Notti mentioned that the agency brought 300 teachers to Anchorage just three weeks ago and that now it won't bring a hundred native people to the land meeting.

Notti indicated that as many as 25 Task Force members may testify before Sen. Jackson's committee and these people will be asked to talk about particular land problems peculiar to their areas.

The Task Force is also planning a no host cocktail party at the Anchorage-Westward Hotel for the senators of the senate committee.

That function will start at 6:00 p.m. and last until 8:30 p.m. on Thursday Feb 8.