



Matthew Medina (SFSU 2022)

Ethnicity: Japanese

Place of Birth: Honolulu, HI

Party Affiliation: Democratic

Highest Elected Position:

US Senate (1963-2012)

Other Positions Held:

US Senate President Pro

Tempore (2010-12); Hawai'i

Territorial House of

Representatives (1959-1963)

Daniel Inouye

(September 7, 1924-December 17, 2012)

Dan's parents arrived in Hawai'i as laborers. In World War II, Dan lost an arm while serving in the US Army and decided to not pursue a career in medicine. He became one of the first state representatives for Hawai'i and the first Japanese American member in Congress. Dan actively supported both international and domestic legislation, such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the War Powers Act of 1973. He was a leading member of the Senate Watergate Investigation Committee that eventually led to the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon. Dan received many military medals including the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart with Cluster. He is the first and only senator to receive both the Medal of Freedom and Presidential Medal of Honor.