

70-42
RESOLUTION

Whereas, the buffalo who provided the staff of life for the American Indian was ruthlessly pushed to the verge of extinction in deliberate disregard of the Indian and his way of life, and

Whereas, surplus Government buffalo are now sold at a profit, and

Whereas, the Indian suffers from a protein deficient diet, a known contributor to poor mental and physical health, and

Whereas, Government programs have as their objective better economic opportunities for the Indians through reservation resource development and the increase of reservation employment possibilities, and

Whereas, Congress in establishing the Indian Arts and Crafts Board gave official recognition to Indian culture, and instructed that an effort be made to encourage Indians to turn certain aspects of it to commercial advantage, and

Whereas, Government expenditures could be decreased, and self-made Indian revenue increased in a way that would encourage self-reliance and independence,

Therefore, be it resolved that the National Buffalo Association at a meeting in Gillette, Wyoming, this 7th day of August, 1970, respectfully requests the United States Department of Interior and the United States Department of Agriculture to have the surplus buffalo from the various parks, refuges and ranges given to the Indians on the various reservations throughout the United States.