



## National Bison Association

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The Honorable Sonny Perdue  
Secretary of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Sent via email to: [AgSec@usda.gov](mailto:AgSec@usda.gov)

Dear Secretary Perdue,

The National Bison Association, which represents 1,150 ranchers and marketers in 48 states, is very pleased that livestock producers are included in the \$9.5 billion in agricultural funding allocated in the new stimulus package.

The Board of Directors of the National Bison Association, meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2020, adopted this formal resolution:

The National Bison Association Board of Directors commends Congress and the Trump Administration for strong steps to protect agriculture and other vital sectors of the U.S. economy during this time of uncertainty related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Bison producers today face the same economic risks as do our neighboring producers in beef, dairy and other livestock sectors. Accordingly, we unanimously urge the Secretary of Agriculture and all other federal officials to assure that America's bison producers are included as eligible recipients in any assistance program implemented for the livestock sector, and that any compensation for bison producers be based upon the prevailing market prices before March 2020.

As I mentioned to you and Ambassador Lighthizer at recent ATAC meetings, the use of the term "beef" rather than "bovine" in past trade agreements has prohibited bison producers from participating on a level playing field. We want to make sure that this is not the case with any upcoming assistance to the livestock sector as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Mr. Secretary, we deeply appreciate your consideration of this request.

With Best Regards,  
Dave Carter

Executive Director