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Letter from Representative Burdick to Rose Drags Wolf Regarding Per Capita Payments, January 22, 1952

Usher Burdick

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January 22, 1952.

Mrs. Rose Drags Wolf,
Van Hook, North Dakota.

Dear Mrs. Drags Wolf:

Many thanks for your recent letter requesting my help in getting money for per capita payments to every member of the Fort Berthold Reservation.

I am in favor of the per capita payment system because I think every Indian should be allowed to stand on his own feet, and I think that the vast majority of the Indians can be depended upon to spend their money wisely. Keeping them under the present arrangement just increases their dependency, whereas per capita payments would give them a greater degree of independence than they have ever known before.

You may count on me to support any move which will give the Indian independence and enable him to "pull himself up by his own boot straps."

Sincerely yours,

Usher L. Burdick, M. C.