

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3004

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Budget Committee on Long-Term Care)

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the swing-bed process.

2 **WHEREAS**, the June 1996 Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning report indicated
3 that swing-bed care, as a form of long-term care, is relatively unregulated when compared to
4 nursing facilities; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the June 1996 Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning report indicated
6 that little data is available about individuals served in a swing-bed setting; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the June 1996 Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning report indicated
8 that it appears that some swing-bed facilities were beginning to use swing beds for permanent
9 placements rather than just short-term stays, thereby circumventing controls over the expansion
10 of long-term care beds; and

11 **WHEREAS**, census data indicates that swing-bed hospitals are admitting residents for
12 long periods of time and that a total of 22 percent of admissions were for more than six months
13 and 47 residents were in swing beds for more than a year; and

14 **WHEREAS**, there is concern that long-term placement of residents in swing beds is
15 going beyond the original concept of swing beds and that some hospitals have gone beyond the
16 original intent and are providing ongoing long-term care services to their residents; and

17 **WHEREAS**, swing-bed services are not required to be at the same level as long-term
18 care facility services and there continues to be a lack of any standardized measurement
19 process available to determine the quality of care being provided in swing-bed facilities; and

20 **WHEREAS**, there are 1,594 potential swing beds in North Dakota; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning expressed concern about the
22 impact the number of available swing beds could have on the overall goal of providing
23 long-term care services in the least restrictive, most cost-effective manner;

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
25 **OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:**

1 That the Legislative Council study the swing-bed process to determine if changes are
2 necessary in the current requirements for providing services to swing-bed residents, including
3 the need for a standard assessment process and whether any limits such as length of stay or
4 number of available swing beds should be implemented; and

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
6 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
7 the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly.