

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3046**

Introduced by

Representatives Stefonowicz, Nelson, Schmidt, Severson, Solberg

Senator Solberg

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council study the financial challenges facing  
2 rural hospitals in this state, including the concerns relating to reimbursement of hospitals for  
3 medical services.

4 **WHEREAS**, rural hospitals are necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of all  
5 residents of this state; and

6 **WHEREAS**, changing demographics indicate the average age of a rural resident of this  
7 state is aging and the rural population is decreasing; and

8 **WHEREAS**, managed care is changing the manner of providing health care services in  
9 rural portions of this state; and

10 **WHEREAS**, hospitals in this state are reimbursed for medical services by a variety of  
11 sources, including individuals, private insurers, Medicaid, Medicare, Indian Health Services,  
12 TRICARE, and Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Veterans Administration; and

13 **WHEREAS**, rural hospitals are facing financial hardship in part because of low  
14 reimbursement rates for medical services; and

15 **WHEREAS**, changes in the Medicare reimbursement rate schedule, a benchmark for  
16 health care insurers in setting reimbursement rate schedules, may negatively impact rural  
17 hospital reimbursement rates for medical services;

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

20 That the Legislative Council study the financial challenges facing rural hospitals in this  
21 state, including the concerns relating to reimbursement of hospitals for medical services; and

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