

**Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3046  
(Representatives Stefonowicz, Nelson, Schmidt, Severson, Solberg)  
(Senator Solberg)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council study the challenges facing the delivery of health care in this state, including the concerns relating to reimbursement of hospitals for medical services, technological innovation, and possible regionalization of services.

**WHEREAS**, the delivery of health care is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of all residents of this state; and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, shifting populations may cause regionalization of provisions of hospital services; and

**WHEREAS**, technological innovations such as telemedicine will affect the delivery of rural health care; and

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

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

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

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

That the Legislative Council study the challenges facing the delivery of health care in this state, including the concerns relating to reimbursement of hospitals for medical services, technological innovations, and possible regionalization of services; and

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

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Speaker of the House

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President of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1999,  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State