

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 4020**

Introduced by

Senators Krauter, T. Mathern, Thompson

Representatives Lundgren, Metcalf, Nowatzki

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to assist farmers by removing or restricting the use of
2 trade sanctions as they apply to agricultural products, by taking advantage of the export
3 enhancement program, by removing the cap on marketing loans, and by reforming crop
4 insurance so that farmers experiencing multiyear disasters could have access to adequate
5 coverage.

6 **WHEREAS**, farm families and rural communities are suffering an economic downturn
7 similar to the farm crisis of the 1980s; and

8 **WHEREAS**, farmers in this state have had to contend with prolonged periods of
9 disastrous weather and crop disease; and

10 **WHEREAS**, farmers in this state are experiencing declining crop insurance coverage,
11 thereby further reducing their ability to mitigate against disasters; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the 1996 farm bill replaced the previous system of farm income protection
13 with a set of fixed, but declining, payments unrelated to commodity prices and capped
14 commodity marketing loan rates; and

15 **WHEREAS**, removing the cap on the marketing loans and extending the loan terms
16 would provide a way to channel much-needed financial resources to farmers, would protect
17 farm prices without distorting the market, and would provide farmers with market flexibility; and

18 **WHEREAS**, prohibiting the use of unilateral economic sanctions that hinder the export
19 of agricultural products would reduce financial harm to farmers in this state;

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

22 That the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
23 assist farmers by removing or restricting the use of trade sanctions as they apply to agricultural
24 products, by taking advantage of the export enhancement program, by removing the cap on

- 1 marketing loans, and by reforming crop insurance so that farmers experiencing multiyear
2 disasters could have access to adequate coverage; and
3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
4 resolution to the chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, the chairman of the House
5 Agriculture Committee, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.