

Fifty-sixth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 4025**

Introduced by

Senators Lyson, Kelsh, Wanzek

Representatives Drovdal, Rennerfeldt, Solberg

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to analyze the operating environment of the Farm  
2 Service Agency and ensure that attempts at efficiency recognize customer needs and  
3 expectations.

4 **WHEREAS**, the Secretary of Agriculture has required that there be significant  
5 reductions in the United States Department of Agriculture staff at the national, state, and local  
6 levels; and

7 **WHEREAS**, between 1993 and 1996, federal staff in Farm Service Agency offices was  
8 reduced by 16 percent and county staff was reduced by 15 percent; and

9 **WHEREAS**, before 1993, the Farm Service Agency offices had 14,953 nonfederal staff,  
10 and by the year 2002, there will be only 4,879 nonfederal staff for county offices, or a reduction  
11 of 66 percent; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the decline in staff is greater than the anticipated decline in workload; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in seeking efficiencies, the Secretary of Agriculture has determined that it  
14 is preferable to have fewer and larger offices that allow for more specialized services and  
15 greater economies of scale; and

16 **WHEREAS**, this state has been notified of the intention to maintain only three  
17 guaranteed loanmaking and servicing centers - one in Fargo, one in Minot, and one in  
18 Bismarck; and

19 **WHEREAS**, this proposed organizational plan must consider the unique demographics  
20 of this state to be efficient and practicable for our citizens;

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

23 That the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to  
24 analyze the operating environment of the Farm Service Agency and ensure that attempts at  
25 efficiency recognize customer needs and expectations; and

- 1           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
- 2 resolution to the Secretary of Agriculture, the chairmen of the Senate and House Agriculture
- 3 Committees, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.