

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3064

Introduced by

Representatives Ekstrom, Fairfield, Jensen

Senator Heitkamp

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study workers' compensation fraud
2 by employers, attorneys, health care providers, and rehabilitation service providers in order to
3 identify the financial impact of such fraud on the North Dakota workers' compensation fund, the
4 most appropriate method of addressing such fraud, and the cost of addressing such fraud.

5 **WHEREAS**, nationally, workers compensation bureaus estimate that up to one-fourth of
6 workers' compensation cases involve fraud by an employer, involved professional such as a
7 physician or attorney, or an injured worker; and

8 **WHEREAS**, workers' compensation fraud results in increases in employer premiums
9 and methods employers use to offset these premium increases include reduced employee
10 benefits such as lower or no pay raises and reduced health insurance coverage; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly recognized the impact of fraud and enacted
12 legislation in 1995 to create a workers' compensation fraud unit; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in 1999 the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$623,928 to workers'
14 compensation for the fraud unit and the unit expects to recover \$7,752,091 during the
15 1999-2001 biennium;

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

18 That the Legislative Council study workers' compensation fraud by employers,
19 attorneys, health care providers, and rehabilitation service providers in order to identify the
20 financial impact of such fraud on the North Dakota workers' compensation fund, the most
21 appropriate method of addressing such fraud, and the cost of addressing such fraud; 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-eighth Legislative Assembly.