

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4008

Introduced by

Senators Klein, Cook, Tomac

Representatives Berg, Wald

1 A concurrent resolution urging the Public Service Commission, Qwest Corporation, and the
2 Federal Communications Commission to proceed as quickly as possible with the process of
3 allowing Qwest Corporation to provide interstate telecommunications services.

4 **WHEREAS**, the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 was approved by Congress to
5 promote competition in all segments of the telecommunications market; and

6 **WHEREAS**, competition in the telecommunications industry is expected to increase the
7 advancement of new telecommunications technologies and systems in the state and to improve
8 services for customers; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Section 271 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 specifically
10 sets forth the tests for determining whether Qwest Corporation's local exchange markets are
11 open to competitors; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Section 271 promises to allow Qwest Corporation to provide interstate
13 services to customers in its local service areas once the tests for opened local markets are
14 satisfied; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Qwest Corporation is able to provide high-speed data services in any
16 country and in 36 states of the Union, but not from and to North Dakota; and

17 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota consumer choices are limited as to the number and capacity
18 of data and voice transmission providers that offer service in the state; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Section 271 approval must be granted by the Federal Communications
20 Commission in consultation with the Public Service Commission;

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

23 That the Public Service Commission move the Section 271 process forward as quickly
24 as possible in order to prevent North Dakota from lagging behind the other states in the opened
25 local and long-distance telecommunications markets; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Qwest Corporation take all possible action to meet
2 the requirements of Section 271 and submit an application for approval to the Federal
3 Communications Commission by December 31, 2001; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the
5 Federal Communications Commission to move the Section 271 process forward as quickly as
6 possible to allow North Dakotans to enjoy the benefits of competition in the long-distance
7 market; and

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
9 resolution to each member of the Public Service Commission, the chief executive officer of
10 Qwest Corporation, each member of the Federal Communications Commission, and to each
11 member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.