

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4015
(Senators Flakoll, Espegard, Wardner)
(Representatives Hawken, Thoreson)

A concurrent resolution commending Maury Wills on his major league baseball career and urging the
2 Committee on Baseball Veterans of the Baseball Hall of Fame to elect Maury Wills to the
3 Baseball Hall of Fame.

4 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills revolutionized and energized the game of baseball through his
extraordinary baserunning and base stealing prowess; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills broke Ty Cobb's 47-year-old record in 1962 when he stole a major
league record 104 bases in a single season, while being caught stealing only 13 times; the year before
Maury entered the majors the entire National League had a total of 388 stolen bases and in 1962
Maury Wills alone stole over 25 percent of the league total the year before he made the majors; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills led the National League in stolen bases six straight seasons and tied
the National League record of four years leading the league in singles; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills gathered 2,134 hits and had a lifetime batting average of .281, which is
equal to or greater than that of a number of other Hall of Fame middle infielders; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills became only the third African-American manager in major league
baseball when he became manager of the Seattle Mariners; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills was selected to seven major league all-star teams and was the first
Most Valuable Player of an all-star game in the history of major league baseball; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills was the 1962 National League Most Valuable Player; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills was a fleet-footed and sure-handed fielder, earning the Gold Glove
Award for fielding in 1961 and 1962 seasons and shortstop of the year in 1971, at age 39; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills was also a major force on the winning L. A. Dodgers team for 11 years
and helped lead the Dodgers to three World Series victories in 1959, 1963, and 1965 and a National
League pennant victory in 1966; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills' many athletic achievements tell the story of a true sportsman and
team player, including countless awards including S. Rae Hickok Pro-Athlete Award, "Sport"
magazine's Man of the Year, "Sporting News" Player of the Year, and Associated Press Athlete of the
Year; and

28 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills is a great ambassador for baseball through youth camps in the United
States, Japan, Mexico, and Cuba and through media appearances and served under Governor Ronald
Reagan as the Chairman of Athletics for Youth in the state of California; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills is an intelligent, articulate, informative, and engaging personality who
spent six years as a baseball analyst for NBC Sports major league baseball game of the week and one
year as an HBO network in-studio sports personality; and

34 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills was a great student of the game who was always his best in crisis
situations during a game; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Maury Wills has been a trainer for 15 different major league baseball teams,
2 teaching the art of baserunning and stealing and trained the Osaka Hankyu Braves in Japan for four
3 years; and

4 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota is proud to be the home of the Maury Wills Museum and appreciative
5 of his promotion of minor league professional baseball in this state through more than eight summers;

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

8 That the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly takes great pleasure in commending Maury Wills for
9 his outstanding accomplishments in and out of major league baseball and respectively urges the
10 Committee on Baseball Veterans of the Baseball Hall of Fame to elect Maury Wills to the Baseball Hall
11 of Fame as well-deserved tribute to his outstanding career and exemplary conduct; and

12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State send an enrolled copy of this
13 resolution to the Committee on Baseball Veterans of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

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President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2005,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State