

Introduced by

Representatives Berg, Boucher

Senators O'Connell, Stenehjem

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study issues relating to tribal-state
2 relations, including methods for encouraging greater tribal-state cooperation; the promotion of
3 economic development on Indian reservations in the state; the identification and study of health
4 care, child welfare services, social services, environmental protection, education, and law
5 enforcement issues on the reservations; the identification and study of the social and fiscal
6 impact of providing social services in counties within and adjacent to the reservations; and the
7 identification and proposals for the resolution of the water issues affecting the state and the
8 tribes.

9 **WHEREAS**, there are five federally recognized Indian tribes and bands in this state,
10 each with a unique history and unique concerns; and

11 **WHEREAS**, each of these tribes and bands is a separate and independent political
12 community with a sovereign government that is distinct and separate from the state; and

13 **WHEREAS**, tribal governments in this state administer many programs, including state
14 programs, which provide benefits to tribal and nontribal members, such as child welfare
15 services, health care services, social services, environmental protection, education, and law
16 enforcement; and

17 **WHEREAS**, there is a need for state and tribal governments to discuss matters of
18 mutual concern in a government-to-government relationship; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Indian tribes and bands in this state and the state of North Dakota
20 should have a mutual respect for each other and should strive to improve communications on
21 issues of mutual concern; and

22 **WHEREAS**, a study of tribal-state issues would assist in resolving potential conflicts,
23 maximizing key intergovernmental relations, and enhancing an exchange of ideas and
24 resources for the greater good of all North Dakota residents, whether tribal members or not;

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

3 That the Legislative Council study issues relating to tribal-state relations, including
4 methods for encouraging greater tribal-state cooperation; the promotion of economic
5 development on Indian reservations in the state; the identification and study of health care,
6 child welfare services, social services, environmental protection, education, and law
7 enforcement issues on the reservations; the identification and study of the social and fiscal
8 impact of providing social services in counties within and adjacent to the reservations; and the
9 identification and proposals for the resolution of the water issues affecting the state and the
10 tribes; and

11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council may assign portions of this
12 study to appropriate interim committees; and

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
14 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
15 the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly.