

Introduced by

Senators Dotzenrod, Armstrong, Poolman

Representative N. Johnson

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to study the economic activity
2 surrounding the three units of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park and the North Dakota
3 Badlands, including the Little Missouri River, to determine the best practices for sustaining and
4 enhancing this unique and special part of North Dakota and the related tourism, recreation, oil
5 and gas development, livestock and grassland-based agriculture, hunting, historical attractions,
6 and quality of life.

7 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota is reaping the benefits of extraordinary economic times with the
8 rapid development of oil and gas deposits and high commodity prices that have allowed the
9 state to become prosperous and sought out as a place where people want to work and live; and

10 **WHEREAS**, a substantial part of North Dakota's quality of life is derived from our rural
11 lifestyle and the great outdoors where people recreate through sightseeing, hunting, fishing,
12 camping, and exploring the state's open spaces and scenic and historical attractions; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, which was established in 1947 in honor of
14 President Theodore Roosevelt, the North Dakota Badlands, and the Little Missouri River are a
15 centerpiece of the state's tourism industry, attracting hundreds of thousand of visitors annually
16 and providing an unparalleled experience for residents and visitors to our great state; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the National Park System of the United States of America is widely regarded
18 as "America's Best Idea," and Theodore Roosevelt National Park is one of North Dakota's best
19 ideas; and

20 **WHEREAS**, tourism is major part of the state's economic base and represents an
21 extraordinary opportunity for continued and long-term growth within our economy that will
22 employ the state's young people and provide a critical component of our quality of life and
23 sense of pride; and

24 **WHEREAS**, members of the Legislative Assembly and citizens from throughout the state
25 are concerned about the future of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, the Badlands including

1 the remarkable scenery, the remote and natural vistas and habitats, the wildlife, and the natural
2 and cultural history; and

3 **WHEREAS**, oil, gas, and agricultural interests are also concerned about the unique scenic,
4 recreational, cultural, historical, and economic interests of western North Dakota and have
5 indicated their commitment to using best practices in the development of all industries within the
6 area, including oil and gas, tourism, agriculture, recreation, and hunting;

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

9 That the Legislative Management study the economic activity surrounding the three units of
10 the Theodore Roosevelt National Park and the North Dakota Badlands to determine the best
11 practices for sustaining and enhancing this unique and special part of North Dakota and the
12 related tourism, recreation, oil and gas development, livestock and grassland-based agriculture,
13 hunting, historical attractions, and quality of life; and

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
15 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
16 the Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly.