

Introduced by

Representatives Louser, Rick C. Becker, Streyle

Senator Armstrong

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to study the feasibility and
2 desirability of state payments to political subdivisions at a rate sufficient to replace property
3 taxes and provide voters a greater level of control in local government budget determination.

4 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly has provided increasing levels of state property tax
5 relief funding to political subdivisions in recent years through a variety of approaches but the
6 cost of local government continues to grow at a substantial rate, which has consumed a large
7 share of property tax relief that was intended to benefit property owners;

8 **WHEREAS**, unprecedented increases in property values have inflated the property tax
9 base to an extent that statutory property tax levy limitations no longer provide significant
10 restraint on local spending levels;

11 **WHEREAS**, consideration should be given to the feasibility of eliminating the existing
12 method of funding local government through assessment and taxation of property, replacing
13 current property tax revenues with state funding, including a reasonable level of increase in
14 state funding annually, and allowing local taxpayers to vote to approve or disapprove any
15 proposal for excess taxing authority;

16 **WHEREAS**, if the property tax system is to be eliminated, an equitable alternative means of
17 increasing revenue with voter approval must be developed that does not rely on the property tax
18 system as it now exists;

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

21 That the Legislative Management study the feasibility and desirability of state payments to
22 political subdivisions at a rate sufficient to replace property taxes and provide voters a greater
23 level of control in local government budget determination; and

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
- 2 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 3 the Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly.