

Introduced by

Representatives Mooney, D. Anderson, Boe, J. Nelson, Strinden

Senators Dotzenrod, Heckaman, O'Connell

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to study the feasibility and
2 desirability of the establishment of county or multi-county emergency response centers outside
3 of urban centers that already maintain emergency response agencies with around-the-clock
4 staffing.

5 **WHEREAS**, most smaller cities and much of the rural area of North Dakota is served by fire
6 departments and emergency medical response agencies that are staffed largely or completely
7 by volunteers; and

8 **WHEREAS**, increased training requirements, more frequent working hour conflicts, as well
9 as the rapidly rising number of incidents for which emergency response is needed have
10 reduced the number of volunteers willing or able to serve and has deterred new people from
11 volunteering; and

12 **WHEREAS**, although a few rural response agencies have been able to retain several
13 full-time response professionals, this is not economically feasible for the vast majority of our
14 state's volunteer entities; and

15 **WHEREAS**, some response agencies have been forced to discontinue service due to the
16 lack of staff, further burdening the neighboring agencies;

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

19 That the Legislative Management study the feasibility and desirability of the establishment
20 of county or multi-county emergency response centers staffed around-the-clock by a core of
21 emergency response professionals; and

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management explore funding options to
23 support the establishment of such response centers; 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.