

Introduced by

Representatives Mock, D. Ruby

Senators Bakke, Rust

1 A concurrent resolution requesting the Legislative Management to study North Dakota Century  
2 Code Title 39, including traffic fines and penalties imposed by state and local governments,  
3 including implementation of methods and mechanisms to improve traffic safety, decrease motor  
4 vehicle crashes, fatalities, and injuries, and discourage impaired driving, speeding, distracted  
5 driving, and lack of seatbelt use in North Dakota.

6 **WHEREAS**, there are more than 15,000 vehicle crashes in North Dakota each year  
7 resulting in fatalities, injuries, and property damage; and

8 **WHEREAS**, in 2016, 113 people died on North Dakota roads; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 2016, males aged 18 to 34 accounted for 36 percent of all unbelted crash  
10 fatalities, 44 percent of drivers in speed-related fatal crashes, and 44 percent of impaired  
11 drivers involved in fatal crashes; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the vast majority of motor vehicle fatalities in North Dakota are the result of  
13 driver behavior including impaired driving, speed, distracted driving, and lack of seatbelt use;  
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 3,477 people  
16 nationwide were killed and an estimated 391,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes  
17 involving distracted drivers in 2015; and

18 **WHEREAS**, speed or driving too fast for conditions is a factor in about one-third of fatal  
19 crashes in North Dakota each year; and

20 **WHEREAS**, there may be several chapters within North Dakota Century Code Title 39 in  
21 need of updating or further review due to inconsistencies or statutory conflicts, including  
22 definitions of emergency vehicles, terminology related to Highway Patrol, title registration, and  
23 equipment and lighting requirements;

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

1       That during the 2019-20 interim, the Legislative Management shall consider studying the  
2 traffic fines and penalties imposed by state and local governments and conduct a complete  
3 analysis of North Dakota Century Code Title 39. The study must include a comprehensive  
4 assessment addressing any inconsistencies, conflicting chapters or sections, or lack of clarity  
5 within North Dakota Century Code Title 39 and a review of North Dakota's traffic fines, fees, and  
6 penalty statutes and compare them with the fines, fees, and penalties of other states; and  
7 include an analytical evaluation of methods to improve traffic safety, decrease motor vehicle  
8 crashes, fatalities, and injuries, and discourage impaired driving, speeding, distracted driving,  
9 and lack of seatbelt use in North Dakota; and

10       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and  
11 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendation, to  
12 the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly.