

Introduced by

Representatives Schatz, Kempenich, Strinden, Dockter

Senators Krebsbach, Kannianen, Oehlke

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress and the President of the United States to protect
2 American consumers by advancing a coordinated effort to address, promote, and provide an
3 effective and innovative solution to combat illegal, unsolicited, and unwanted robocalls and "call
4 spoofing".

5 **WHEREAS**, a robocall is an automated telephone call delivering a recorded message, often
6 on behalf of a telemarketing company or as part of a fraudulent scheme; and

7 **WHEREAS**, an estimated 98 million robocalls are received daily in the United States; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Federal Communications Commission receives approximately 200,000
9 complaints each year regarding robocalls; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in 2017, the Federal Trade Commission received 4.5 million complaints about
11 unwanted calls; and

12 **WHEREAS**, according to the Federal Trade Commission, fraud from illegal, unsolicited, and
13 unwanted calls amounts to approximately \$9.5 billion annually; and

14 **WHEREAS**, small businesses in the United States waste an estimated 20 million hours per
15 year dealing with illegal, unsolicited, and unwanted robocalls, translating to at least \$475 million
16 in lost productivity annually; and

17 **WHEREAS**, robocalls have been combined with a process called "call spoofing" in which a
18 call appears to originate from a local, often legitimate, number to trick the call recipient into
19 answering the call; and

20 **WHEREAS**, under the federal Truth in Caller ID Act, individuals are prohibited from
21 transmitting misleading or inaccurate caller ID information with the intent to defraud, cause
22 harm, or wrongly obtain anything of value; and

23 **WHEREAS**, as technology continues to evolve the number of robocalls and "call spoofing"
24 continues to grow and although the Federal Communications Commission has initiated new
25 policy initiatives to combat illegal robocalls and "call spoofing", more needs to be done;

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

3 That the Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges Congress and the President of the United
4 States to protect American consumers by advancing a coordinated effort among the Federal
5 Trade Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Federal Bureau of
6 Investigation to effectively address, promote, and provide an effective and innovative solution
7 to combat illegal, unsolicited, and unwanted robocalls and "call spoofing"; and

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges Congress to
9 grant additional authority to the Federal Communications Commission to allow the agency to
10 stop unwanted robocalls and "call spoofing"; and

11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Federal Communications Commission is urged to
12 educate the public on how to report illegal telephone calls; and

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
14 to the President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States
15 Senate and the United States House of Representatives, each member of the Federal Trade
16 Commission, the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, the Director of the
17 Federal Bureau of Investigation, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional
18 Delegation.