### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

#### **CHAPTER 599**

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3001**

(Legislative Management) (Budget Section)

A concurrent resolution authorizing the Budget Section of the Legislative Management to hold the required legislative hearings on state plans for the receipt and expenditure of new or revised block grants passed by Congress.

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States enacted the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 creating the community services block grant program; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly is required to conduct public hearings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Appropriations Committees have met the public hearing requirement for community services block grant program money expected for the next biennium by the Department of Commerce; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly cannot hold public hearings on revisions to current block grants or additional block grants that may be approved by Congress after recess or adjournment of the Legislative Assembly; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly will not meet in regular session during 2024, and thus its public hearing responsibility for grants not approved by the Sixtyeighth Legislative Assembly must be delegated to a legislative entity:

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

That the Department of Commerce appropriation bill enacted by the Legislative Assembly is the Legislative Assembly's approval of and contains directions regarding the use of community services block grant program money for the period ending September 30, 2025; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Budget Section of the Legislative Management may hold the public legislative hearings required for the receipt of additional block grants or other federal moneys under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 or other relevant federal statutes; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the authority granted by this resolution is in effect during the period from the recess or adjournment of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly through September 30, 2025, and the Budget Section may provide public notice and hold the hearings authorized by this resolution using the methods and procedures it deems appropriate.

Filed March 22, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3003**

(Representative Bosch) (Senator Dever)

A concurrent resolution designating House and Senate employment positions and fixing compensation.

### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That for the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly, the following positions are designated as employee positions of the House and Senate and are to be paid the daily wages indicated:

#### HOUSE

Chief clerk	\$217
Assistant chief clerk	193
Journal reporter	207
Calendar clerk	193
Bill and recording clerk	188
Sergeant-at-arms	173
Administrative assistant to majority leader	188
Staff assistant to majority leader	188
Administrative assistant to minority leader	188
Staff assistant to minority leader	188
Administrative assistant to Speaker	188
Deputy chief clerk	200
Quality assurance clerk	188
Procedural appropriations committee clerk	188
Technological appropriations committee clerk	188
Procedural assistant appropriations committee clerk	181
Technological assistant appropriations committee clerk	181
Procedural committee clerk	181
Technological committee clerk	181
Deputy sergeant-at-arms	145
Assistant sergeant-at-arms	135
Chief legislative assistant	146
Legislative assistant - page	124
SENATE	
Secretary of the Senate	\$217
Assistant secretary of the Senate	193
Journal reporter	207
Calendar clerk	193
Bill and recording clerk	188
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Sergeant-at-arms Administrative assistant to majority leader Staff assistant to majority leader Administrative assistant to minority leader	173 188 188 188
Staff assistant to minority leader Chief committee clerk	188 200
Quality assurance clerk	188
Procedural appropriations committee clerk	188
Technological appropriations committee clerk	188
Procedural assistant appropriations committee clerk	181
Technological assistant appropriations committee clerk	181
Procedural committee clerk	181
Technological committee clerk	181
Deputy sergeant-at-arms	145
Assistant sergeant-at-arms	135
Chief page	146
Legislative assistant - page	124
Legislative assistant - supply room coordinator	135

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that each employee of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly is entitled to an additional \$1 per day for each previous regular session of the Legislative Assembly during which that employee was paid for at least 45 days, as either an employee of the House or the Senate, and to receive this additional compensation, which may not exceed \$10 per day, that employee must certify to the Legislative Council the year of each regular session during which that employee was employed as required by this resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that each majority and each minority leader is entitled to one administrative assistant and two staff assistants, but each majority or minority leader may hire fewer or more assistants so long as the total daily compensation for the assistants hired does not exceed the total daily amount authorized for those positions by this resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the report of the Employment Committee of the respective house identify the number of employees in each position by listing every employee and the position for which employed; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that with the approval of the Employment Committee of the respective house, a position may be converted to a part-time position, with the daily compensation converted to a per-hour rate of pay, and a part-time employee may hold more than one part-time position so long as the positions held do not exceed a full-time equivalent position; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, an employee is entitled to pay for any day the Legislative Assembly is in recess and any employee is required to be present for committee hearings or other legislative business; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if any employee resigns, is discharged, or for other reasons terminates employment, the compensation provided by this resolution for that employee ceases effective the last day of employment.

Filed January 17, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3004**

(Representatives Monson, B. Anderson, Bellew, D. Johnson, Longmuir) (Senators Myrdal, Rust, Vedaa)

A concurrent resolution encouraging North Dakota citizens to purchase United States flags made out of hemp and manufactured in North Dakota.

**WHEREAS**, on June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed an Act to establish an official flag for our new nation; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than 200 years, the United States flag has served as a symbol of our nation's unity, freedom, and patriotism, as well as a source of pride and inspiration for millions of citizens;

WHEREAS, historians assert the first United States flags were made from hemp; and

WHEREAS, hemp is stronger and more durable than cotton; and

WHEREAS, hemp fades less than other fabrics; and

**WHEREAS**, state law prohibits state entities or political subdivisions from purchasing a United States flag unless the flag was manufactured in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota citizens should demonstrate their patriotism by supporting local businesses in our state which manufacture United States flags made out of durable materials, such as hemp;

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

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all North Dakota citizens are encouraged to purchase United States flags made out of hemp and manufactured in North Dakota; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the commissioner of commerce and members of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Filed March 13, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3006**

(Representatives Steiner, B. Anderson, D. Anderson, Lefor, J. Olson, Porter) (Senators Bekkedahl, Elkin, Hogue, Kannianen, Patten, Rummel)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to support policies to increase oil refining capacity in the United States.

**WHEREAS**, rising gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel prices are contributing to high fuel prices due to high crude oil prices, and the shortage of oil refinery capacity has applied upward pressure on the cost of refined petroleum products; and

**WHEREAS**, global oil refinery capacity is over 3,000,000 barrels per day below prepandemic levels and domestic refining capacity in the United States is approximately 1,000,000 barrels per day below prepandemic capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, a refinery in Convent, Louisiana, capable of refining 211,146 barrels of oil per day was powered down due to low demand, another company closed its refinery in Pennsylvania after an explosion, and some refineries that were idled during the pandemic are being permanently decommissioned; and

**WHEREAS**, annual inflation in the United States has reached 8.6 percent, the highest rate since December 1981, gasoline prices increased 48.7 percent in July 2022, and fuel oil prices increased 106.7 percent in July 2022, the largest increase on record; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing oil refining capacity, pipeline easement approvals, and federal land leasing will promote increased domestic oil production and lessen the United States' dependence on foreign oil sources while increasing supply at a lower cost to consumers;

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

That the Legislative Assembly urges the Congress to support policies that increase refining capacity in the United States; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to all members of Congress and the President of the United States.

Filed March 22, 2023

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3007

(Representatives Bellew, D. Johnson, Klemin, Marschall, Martinson) (Senators Dever, Paulson, Wobbema)

A concurrent resolution commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the United States combat operations and the release of American prisoners of war in Vietnam.

**WHEREAS**, the year 2023 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of United States combat operations and the release of American prisoners of war in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, United States combat operations in Vietnam came to an end on January 27, 1973; and

**WHEREAS**, of the 3,403,100 Americans who served with honor during the Vietnam War, there were 58,220 casualties, which included 198 North Dakotans who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, of the 766 prisoners of war, 114 died while captive in Vietnam, and 591 returned home during Operation Homecoming 50 years ago, from February to April of 1973; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vietnam War left almost 1,600 Americans unaccounted for, and nine North Dakotans are still listed as missing in action; and

**WHEREAS**, today there are more than 46,000 veterans living in North Dakota, including approximately 15,000 of our sons and daughters who served during the Vietnam era; and

**WHEREAS**, these North Dakota veterans heard the call of duty, stepped in, and served relentlessly and nobly in a brutal war; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vietnam War seldom received the attention it deserves, and now, half a century later, we honor our Vietnam veterans and offer them the proper respect of a grateful state and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the brave men and women who served with dignity and honor during this historic time and during what was, at the time, the longest war in our country's history, let us remember them and thank them for their service;

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

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the United States combat operations and the release of American prisoners of war in Vietnam, and further call upon the people of our great state to join in honoring and expressing gratitude to all who valiantly served our nation during the Vietnam War, and to their families and loved ones; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward a copy of this resolution to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Filed March 13, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3008**

(Representatives Schauer, Bellew, Headland, D. Johnson, Klemin, Lefor, Pyle) (Senators Hogan, Wanzek, Wobbema)

A concurrent resolution urging the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to take favorable action on S. 849 and H.R. 7972, to provide for the inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall the names of the lost crew members of the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans.

**WHEREAS**, in the early morning hours of June 3, 1969, while participating in Operation Sea Spirit, the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans collided with the HMAS Melborne in the South China Sea, resulting in the death of 74 United States sailors, including Patrick Gene Glennon of Fessenden, North Dakota, and Robert James Seale of Grand Forks, North Dakota; and

**WHEREAS**, all American ships were ordered out from combat support missions in Vietnam to participate in the training operation; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Law No. 96-297 [94 Stat. 827; 16 U.S.C. 431 et seq.], authorized the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to establish a memorial in honor and recognition of the men and women of the armed forces of the United States who served in the Vietnam War; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund relies on the department of defense to compile the list of names and criteria for inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall; and

**WHEREAS**, under title 38, United States Code, section 101, veterans who died as a direct or indirect result of military operations in Southeast Asia are eligible for inclusion on the memorial; and

**WHEREAS**, the evidence submitted regarding the accident that destroyed the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans, killing 74 of her sailors, shows the Evans had been operating in combat support missions and would have returned to combat support upon completing Operation Sea Spirit;

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

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to take favorable action on S. 849 and H.R. 7972, to provide for the inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall the names of the lost crew members of the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Filed March 13, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3009**

(Representatives Mock, K. Anderson, Beltz, Dakane, Grueneich, Hagert, Murphy, D. Ruby)
(Senators Clemens, Conley, Paulson, Rummel)

A concurrent resolution designating the second week in May of 2023-24 as "North Dakota Share the Road Safety Week".

**WHEREAS**, walking, running, and bicycling provide an economical form of transportation, recreation, and physical exercise; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing the number of residents in the state who enjoy walking, running, and bicycling as a pleasant pastime promotes the health benefits of an active lifestyle; and

**WHEREAS**, local and tribal communities enjoy the economic benefits of walking, running, and bicycling events; and

**WHEREAS**, knowledge and understanding of road safety issues, including injury prevention, the importance of laws and ordinances, and sharing the road with motorists, are necessary for pedestrians and bike riders of all ages and levels of experience; and

**WHEREAS**, the biking, walking, and running communities of North Dakota are eager to engage in recreational and educational activities and to partner in generating public awareness of the need to engage in safe practices for all types of traffic on roads; and

**WHEREAS**, to mark the observance of "North Dakota Share the Road Safety Week", an effort should be made to recognize those who have been killed or injured in collisions involving motor vehicles, bicycles, or pedestrians; promote the ideals of sharing the roads; and to develop and promote collaborative measures focused on safety, saving lives, and preventing injury on North Dakota road systems;

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

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly designates the second week in May of 2023-24 as "North Dakota Share the Road Safety Week"; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be entered in the journal.

Filed March 24, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3010**

(Representatives S. Olson, K. Anderson, Henderson, Meier, Novak, Rohr, Steiner, VanWinkle)

- A concurrent resolution urging public schools and public entities, including agencies or departments that collect vital statistics, to protect women's rights by distinguishing between the sexes according to biological sex at birth for the purpose of providing equal opportunities and ensuring the privacy and safety of women and girls.
- **WHEREAS**, a male and a female possess unique and immutable biological differences that manifest prior to birth and increase as the individual ages and experiences puberty; and
- **WHEREAS**, biological differences between the sexes mean that only a female is able to become pregnant, give birth, and breastfeed children; and
- **WHEREAS**, biological differences between the sexes mean that a male is, on average, bigger, stronger, and faster than a female; and
- **WHEREAS**, biological differences between the sexes leave a female more physically vulnerable than a male to specific forms of violence, including sexual violence; and
- **WHEREAS**, females have suffered historically from discrimination in education, athletics, and employment; and
- WHEREAS, when it comes to sex, "equal" does not mean "same" or "identical" and separate is not inherently unequal; and
- **WHEREAS**, biological differences between the sexes are enduring and may warrant the creation of separate social, educational, athletic, or other spaces to ensure safety or allow members of each sex to succeed and thrive; and
- **WHEREAS**, inconsistencies in court rulings and policy initiatives with respect to the definitions of "sex", "male", "female", "man", and "woman" have led to endangerment of single-sex spaces and resources, thereby necessitating clarification of certain terms; and
- **WHEREAS**, there are legitimate reasons to distinguish between the sexes with respect to athletics, prisons and other detention facilities, domestic violence shelters, rape and abuse crisis centers, locker rooms, restrooms, and other areas where safety and privacy are implicated; and
- **WHEREAS**, policies and laws that distinguish between the sexes are subject to intermediate constitutional scrutiny, which forbids unfair discrimination against similarly situated males and females but allows the law to distinguish between the sexes if distinctions are substantially related to important governmental objectives;
  - NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

### REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges public schools and public entities, including agencies or departments that collect vital statistics, to protect women's rights by distinguishing between the sexes according to biological sex at birth for the purpose of providing equal opportunities and ensuring the privacy and safety of women and girls; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward a copy of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the superintendent of each school district in the state, and the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Filed April 6, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3011**

(Representative Weisz) (Senator Lee)

A concurrent resolution urging the Insurance Commissioner to facilitate a change in the essential health benchmark plan for future Affordable Care Act health plans.

**WHEREAS**, the state has the opportunity to make changes in the essential health benchmark plan for future plan years in accordance with federal requirements and through coordination with federal contacts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Insurance Commissioner should add to the essential health benchmark plan restricted cost-sharing for diabetes, providing a limited cost-sharing for a 30-day supply of covered insulin drugs, not to exceed \$25, regardless of the quantity or type of insulin, and of covered medical supplies for insulin dosing and administration, not to exceed \$25, regardless of the quantity or manufacturer of supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Insurance Commissioner should add to the essential health benchmark plan coverage for one hearing aid per hearing-impaired ear every 36 months or more often if there is a significant change in the insured's hearing status as determined by the licensed physician or audiologist; and

**WHEREAS**, the Insurance Commissioner should add to the essential health benchmark plan coverage for dietary or nutritional screening, counseling, and therapy for obesity, diabetes-related diagnosis, or a chronic illness or condition that could be managed through nutritional or weight loss programs, up to 12 sessions every policy year, if prescribed by the insured's physician; and

**WHEREAS**, the Insurance Commissioner should add to the essential health benchmark plan coverage for diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease in acute or chronic disease state if recommended by a board-certified medical practitioner based on health-related impacts or on further deterioration in disease state due to gum disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the Insurance Commissioner should add to the essential health benchmark plan coverage for position emission tomography scans for an insured who has a prostate cancer diagnosis, including an insured who is in remission or who is cured, which would include at least two different types of position emission tomography scans upon initial diagnosis if requested by a physician, and one position emission tomography scan every 6 months for the life of the insured; and

**WHEREAS**, the Insurance Commissioner should add to the essential health benchmark plan steps to address the opioid epidemic, including limiting the first fill of opioid prescriptions to 7 days, removing barriers for drugs used in the treatment of opioid use disorder or opioid replacement drugs; and requiring coverage for an easy-to-use overdose antidote when prescribing high-dose opioids;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

### REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges the Insurance Commissioner to facilitate a change in the essential health benchmark plan for future Affordable Care Act health plans; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward a copy of this resolution to the Insurance Commissioner.

Filed March 13, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3013**

(Representatives Novak, D. Anderson, Bosch, Heinert, Mock, J. Olson, Porter, Thomas)
(Senator Patten)

- A concurrent resolution recognizing December 6<sup>th</sup> as "Miner's Day" and urging the federal government to refrain from enacting regulations that threaten the reliability and affordability of electric power in North Dakota and to increase support for research, development, and deployment for next generation carbon-based energy generation.
- **WHEREAS**, North Dakota has at least an 800-year supply of economically recoverable lignite coal at current production rates and is the second largest oil producer in the United States; and
- **WHEREAS**, because of energy-intensive industries, weather extremes, and transportation requirements, North Dakota is ranked third in the nation in energy expenditures per capita based on 2020 data used in the latest rankings from the United States Energy Information Administration; and
- **WHEREAS**, the North Dakota lignite coal industry generated over 63 percent of the electricity in the state in 2020 according to the United States Energy Information Administration and provides affordable electricity to more than 2 million families throughout the upper Midwest; and
- **WHEREAS**, the lignite coal industry contributes more than \$5.4 billion in total business activity to North Dakota; and
- **WHEREAS**, the lignite coal industry employs 13,000 individuals with some of the highest wages in the state; and
- **WHEREAS**, economic analysis performed by North Dakota State University agribusiness and applied economics researchers estimates a new 500 megawatt, coal-based electric generating facility would create \$54.3 million in personal income, \$40 million in retail sales, and \$173.7 million in total business activity each year; and
- **WHEREAS**, the current value of the state's existing coal-based infrastructure is \$18.6 billion; and
- **WHEREAS**, current federal regulations represent a de facto ban on the construction of new, efficient, and cost-effective, coal-based power plants that could provide the needed dispatchable, reliable, clean, and affordable electricity and threaten the continued operation of existing coal-based power plants; and
- WHEREAS, federal policy gives other electric generation resources a significant competitive advantage; and
- **WHEREAS**, uncertainty surrounding federal regulations continues to discourage investment in coal-based facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota serves as a model for responsible production of its natural resources, including upholding a longstanding practice of reclaiming mined land to a condition equal to or better than the condition of the land before the land was mined; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota continues to be 1 of only 17 states meeting all federal ambient air quality standards and 1 of only 4 states which has never violated federal ambient air quality standards; and

**WHEREAS**, affordable, reliable power is the backbone of North Dakota's established and emerging industries; and

**WHEREAS**, advancements in carbon capture utilization and storage can unlock enormous potential for the state's energy industries and economy;

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

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly recognizes December 6<sup>th</sup> as "Miner's Day" and urges the federal government to refrain from enacting regulations that threaten the reliability and affordability of electric power in North Dakota and to increase support for research, development, and deployment for next generation carbon-based energy generation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the federal government is urged to withdraw and revise regulations and other administrative actions that negatively impact the ability to use North Dakota's lignite coal reserves for affordable and reliable domestic power; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the federal government is urged to work with the state, the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, and the North Dakota lignite coal industry to design and implement regulatory programs based on sound science with inputs from local sources, recognize the status of existing technology, and develop timelines that make economic sense for the producers and consumers of electricity and byproducts derived from North Dakota lignite; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the federal government is urged to increase its partnership with the state of North Dakota and industry to develop technological solutions to enable the continuation of lignite-based electric generation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Department of Energy, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Filed March 24, 2023

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3014

(Representatives Novak, D. Anderson, Hagert, Heinert)

- A concurrent resolution urging the Southwest Power Pool and Midcontinent Independent System Operator to take prompt and decisive actions to maintain the reliability of the Bulk Power System by correcting market failures that have allowed capacity retirements to outpace replacement.
- **WHEREAS**, the welfare of the citizens and economic security of this state depend on the affordability, reliability, and resilience of the electric power supply; and
- WHEREAS, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation's 2022 long-term reliability assessment shows several United States regions with serious generation capacity shortfalls and a failure to meet established reliability criteria, and the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), which serve North Dakota, have experienced multiple maximum generation alerts in recent years and load-shedding events to address capacity shortfalls; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly is greatly concerned about the ability of regional grid operators to meet peak demand during extreme weather events because dispatchable thermal generation resources are retiring much faster than generating capacity is being replaced, and this gap will continue to widen as weather-dependent generation saturates the grid; and
- **WHEREAS**, the trend of announced dispatchable generation retirements is scheduled to increase in the 15-state MISO to more than 30 gigawatts by 2030, not including retirements caused by new Environmental Protection Agency rules; and
- **WHEREAS**, electric power markets are distorted significantly by direct and indirect subsidies that erode the economics of dispatchable thermal electric power plants and increase the likelihood of early retirement of the power plants; and
- **WHEREAS**, state and federal renewable energy mandates further drive investment decisions toward weather-dependent generation without considering the full impacts to the system; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Biden Administration's 2035 clean energy mandate fails to consider the land use impacts, permitting processes, supply chains, and construction time lines necessary to build new generation and transmission infrastructure needed to meet the goals and reliably operate the Bulk Power System; and
- **WHEREAS**, North Dakota supports developing thermal and renewable resources in tandem as well as new technologies, such as hydrogen and carbon capture and storage to maintain an affordable, reliable, and resilient grid that is essential to a strong economy, safe communities, and geopolitical security;
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges the SPP and MISO to take prompt and decisive actions to maintain the reliability of the Bulk Power System by correcting market failures that have allowed capacity retirements to outpace replacement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, because North Dakota does not have renewable energy mandates that drive policies at the regional transmission organization level but has aggressive carbon neutral goals by 2030 which involve commercializing carbon capture storage technology, the Public Service Commission and North Dakota Transmission Authority are urged to advocate at MISO and SPP for policies that fairly compensate dispatchable energy resources, properly value all generators based on their contributions to grid reliability, and ensure the availability of generation resources at all hours to meet demand; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward a copy of this resolution to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Service Commission, North Dakota Transmission Authority, North Dakota Congressional Delegation, Midcontinent Independent System Operator, and Southwest Power Pool.

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3015**

(Representatives Mock, Bosch, Ista, Mitskog, Nelson, Novak, Porter, Richter, Roers Jones)
(Senators Bekkedahl, Kessel, Patten)

A concurrent resolution urging the federal government to recognize natural gas and nuclear energy as environmentally sustainable economic activities.

**WHEREAS**, reliable, clean, and affordable energy is vital to the economic growth and overall interests of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, natural gas is an essential part of America's energy mix with 50 percent of the homes in the United States using natural gas for home and water heating and 39 percent of all electricity generated in the United States being generated by natural gas; and

**WHEREAS**, natural gas is a renewable fuel generated from multiple sources across all regions of the United States and is the cleanest fossil fuel on earth; and

**WHEREAS**, the abundance of clean-burning natural gas in the United States is a source of tremendous economic benefits for our country, directly supporting thousands of jobs, improving household disposable income, and contributing to state and local revenues, giving the United States a global energy advantage; and

**WHEREAS**, as of July 1, 2022, 92 nuclear reactors were operating at 54 nuclear power plants in 28 states, which supply about 20 percent of total annual electricity and since 1990, the United States has been the world's largest producer of nuclear power, accounting for more than 30 percent of worldwide nuclear generation of electricity; and

**WHEREAS**, the absence of further lifetime extensions and new projects to extend the life of nuclear reactors could result in an additional four billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, plans to close existing facilities would result in approximately 25 percent of existing nuclear capacity being lost; and

**WHEREAS**, nuclear power is the second largest source of low-carbon electricity and the implications of fading nuclear energy are numerous, including electricity security concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 6, 2022, the European Parliament authorized the Complementary Delegated Act, which adds natural gas and nuclear power plants to the European Union Taxonomy and labels investments in natural gas and nuclear power plants as climate-friendly:

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

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges the federal government to recognize natural gas and nuclear energy as environmentally sustainable economic activities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Filed March 24, 2023

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3016

(Representatives Vigesaa, Boschee, Lefor) (Senators Bekkedahl, Hogan, Hogue) (Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

A concurrent resolution declaring February 9, 2023, as "Giving Hearts Day."

**WHEREAS**, Giving Hearts Day was started in 2008 by the Dakota Medical Foundation and Impact Foundation as the first 24-hour regional giving event of its kind with the Alex Stern Family Foundation joining as a cohost in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, givingheartsday.org is a gateway for North Dakota citizens and beyond to support hundreds of charitable organizations doing important work improving health and quality of life across our state; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dakota Medical, Impact, and Alex Stern Family Foundations jointly support the training and coaching of nonprofit organizations to dramatically improve and expand their impact in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, since inception, Giving Hearts Day has raised more than \$138 million to support regional charities, and last year, 550 charities received \$26.6 million through 41,000 caring donors who gave 90,000 gifts and made 805 volunteer pledges; and

**WHEREAS**, Giving Hearts Day 2023 includes nearly 570 charitable causes, and offers more than \$250,000 in awards and incentives, and spans the entire state of North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, Giving Hearts Day has set a bold goal to build the most generous region in the nation by 2025, supporting North Dakota in becoming the number one state for volunteerism and number one state for donated goods, and making Giving Hearts Day the number one giving day in the nation;

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

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly declares February 9, 2023, as "Giving Hearts Day"; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward a copy of this resolution to the Dakota Medical Foundation, Impact Foundation, and the Alex Stern Family Foundation.

Filed February 10, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3017**

(Representatives Dobervich, Beltz, Dakane, Finley-DeVille, McLeod, Strinden) (Senators Hogan, Mathern, K. Roers)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying the increasing need for inpatient mental health care for children and whether there are adequate home- and community-based care and outpatient services for the number of children and the location of need.

**WHEREAS**, to accurately study the need for inpatient mental health care for children it is necessary to have data regarding what mental health services are available in the state for children with mental health treatment needs and where these services are offered; and

WHEREAS, to accurately study the need for inpatient mental health care for children it is necessary to have data regarding how many children in the state are in need of mental health services, how many children are on waiting lists for services or denied services due to lack of service availability, and how many children are being sent outside this state to receive these services due to lack of service availability; and

**WHEREAS**, to accurately study the need for inpatient mental health care for children it is necessary to have data regarding the cost of providing these services in state and outside this state and how much of this cost is borne by the state and how much is borne by the families; and

**WHEREAS**, to accurately study the need for inpatient mental health care for children it is necessary to investigate the circumstances under which parents are forced to give up guardianship of children for the children to receive services; and

**WHEREAS**, there are holistic impacts on children and their families when children are placed outside this state to receive inpatient mental health care; and

**WHEREAS**, if there is a gap in the need for inpatient mental health care for children and the services available, it is necessary to develop recommendations to address this gap;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying the increasing need for inpatient mental health care for children and whether there are adequate home- and community-based care and outpatient services for the number of children and the location of need; and

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

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3018

(Representatives Conmy, Nelson) (Senator Hogan)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying strategies to increase the number of North Dakotans who receive health benefits coverage.

**WHEREAS**, the Kaiser Family Foundation reports 2021 data for North Dakota indicates 57.5 percent of North Dakotans received health care benefits through an employer, 7.9 percent through nongroup coverage, 9.8 percent through Medicaid, 14.4 percent through Medicare, and 2.7 percent through the military, and 7.7 percent were uninsured; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota is facing a workforce shortage, with an unemployment rate of approximately 2.3 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, the state can strengthen its partnership with private businesses by investigating innovative opportunities to increase health benefits coverage, helping to draw workers to North Dakota; and

**WHEREAS**, the state can leverage federal funds to increase health benefits coverage for low-income workers through Medicaid, Medicaid Expansion, and the children's health insurance program; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota's natural resources place the state in a unique position to fund initiatives to increase access to health benefits coverage;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying strategies to increase the number of North Dakotans who receive health benefits coverage; and

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

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3021**

(Representatives Dobervich, Davis, Fegley, Mock, Nelson, Schneider) (Senators Hogan, K. Roers)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying whether the services provided in the state relating to the care and treatment of individuals with brain injury are adequate, including a review of the state's existing programs to identify potential pathways and treatment options for individuals with brain injury, gap identification with programmatic recommendations identifying potential strategies to address the gaps, potential federal and state funding sources for services, and developing a method to evaluate the efficacy of new programs.

**WHEREAS**, in the United States, 13.5 million people live with a disability because of a traumatic brain injury; and

**WHEREAS**, the cornerstone of the management of traumatic brain injury is the intensive care treatment of these patients with careful attention paid to the airway, oxygenation, and adequate hemodynamic support to avoid the secondary injuries that are associated with events such as hypoxia and hypotension; and

**WHEREAS**, brain injury services and efforts of other states, including the planning and implementation process for any new or modified programs, may serve as models for services offered in this state; and

**WHEREAS**, if new brain injury services are implemented in the state, it is important to know the impact of the implementation, including the number of individuals impacted, the cost of the services, and the timeline for implementation;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying whether the services provided in the state relating to the care and treatment of individuals with brain injury are adequate, including a review of the state's existing programs to identify potential pathways and treatment options for individuals with brain injury, gap identification with programmatic recommendations identifying potential strategies to address the gaps, potential federal and state funding sources for services, and developing a method to evaluate the efficacy of new programs; and

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

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3022**

(Representatives Davis, Dakane, Dobervich, Fegley, Finley-DeVille, Henderson, Holle, Nelson, Schreiber-Beck)
(Senators Mathern, Weston)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying and clarifying the roles of the State Board of Public School Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the boards of public school districts, and the North Dakota High School Activities Association, as they relate to proper spectator conduct, including the clarification of expectations and consequences for violating those expectations, and the promotion of good sportsmanship and good citizenship, including embracing diversity.

**WHEREAS**, unsportsmanlike conduct at high school activities includes racial discrimination and harassment directed at players by spectators, including behavior among rival spectator groups which can escalate into disruptions and violence in the stands; and

**WHEREAS**, countless instances of racial harassment and race-based name calling during high school sporting events have occurred, and continue to occur, whether subtle or flagrant; and

WHEREAS, recently, student spectators from a North Dakota high school verbally taunted and physically mocked student athletes from a tribal high school located in North Dakota: and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2023, student spectators from a North Dakota high school taunted a student athlete of color from another North Dakota high school by imitating monkey sounds and directing racial slurs at the player during a basketball game; and

**WHEREAS**, public outcry and media coverage is prevalent, yet consequences for harassment are unclear; and

**WHEREAS**, all student athletes deserve protection from discriminatory and racist behaviors; and

**WHEREAS**, student spectators engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct, including racist conduct, and the schools those students represent deserve to be held accountable for inappropriate behavior;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying and clarifying the roles of the State Board of Public School Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the boards of public school districts, and the North Dakota High School Activities Association, as they relate to proper spectator conduct, including the clarification of

expectations and consequences for violating those expectations, and the promotion of good sportsmanship and good citizenship, including embracing diversity; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management may receive input from a task force which may include:

- 1. One member of the State Board of Public School Education;
- 2. The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Superintendent's designee;
- 3. Three members of the boards of public school districts appointed by the North Dakota School Boards Association:
- 4. The President of the North Dakota High School Activities Association or the President's designee;
- One representative from each of the four tribes that have schools located in North Dakota, appointed by each Tribal Chair; and
- 6. One parent appointed by the Indian Education Director of Bismarck Public Schools; and

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

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3023

(Representatives Ista, Klemin, O'Brien, Roers Jones, Schneider) (Senators Barta, Cleary, Dwyer, Meyer)

A concurrent resolution encouraging the judicial branch to consider forming a task force to study the retention of University of North Dakota law graduates in the state, including an evaluation of alternative pathways to bar admission that ensure attorney competence.

**WHEREAS**, the state is experiencing a shortage of attorneys, particularly in rural areas, and solutions are being explored to alleviate the attorney shortage; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of North Dakota School of Law is the only institution in the state that grants the degree of juris doctor; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of attorneys licensed to practice law in North Dakota are graduates of the University of North Dakota School of Law; and

**WHEREAS**, any requirements for admission to the bar as a licensed attorney in the state of North Dakota must ensure that all licensed attorneys are highly competent to practice law in this state; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of North Dakota to evaluate available alternative methods for assessing the competency of applicants for licensure as attorneys in the state and determine whether alternative assessments would provide an incentive for more University of North Dakota School of Law graduates to practice in North Dakota while not compromising the quality of attorneys in the state;

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

That the judicial branch is encouraged to consider forming a task force to study the retention of University of North Dakota law graduates in the state, including an evaluation of alternative pathways to bar admission that ensure attorney competence; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the task force may include representatives from the:

- 1. Judicial branch:
- 2. State Board of Law Examiners;
- Legislative branch;
- 4. University of North Dakota School of Law; and
- 5. State Bar Association of North Dakota; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the judicial branch is encouraged to report any findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Chief Justice of the North Dakota Supreme Court, the Clerk of Court for the North Dakota Supreme Court, the President of the State Board of Law Examiners, the Dean of the University of North Dakota School of Law, and the President of the State Bar Association of North Dakota.

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3025**

(Representatives Klemin, Hanson, Lefor, Roers Jones, Schneider, Vigesaa) (Senators Bekkedahl, Dwyer, Hogue, Larson)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying the feasibility and desirability of renovating and constructing an addition to the Liberty Memorial Building or constructing a new building on the grounds of the state Capitol to serve as a new Supreme Court building.

**WHEREAS**, the idea of housing the Supreme Court in a stand-alone building is not a new concept; and

**WHEREAS**, since at least 1924, the plans for the Capitol grounds included a separate "Temple of Justice" that would mirror the architectural design of the Liberty Memorial Building; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the Supreme Court's expanding space needs, in 2015, then-Governor Jack Dalrymple proposed appropriating \$40 million to repurpose the Liberty Memorial Building into a Supreme Court building; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 proposal did not advance due to the rapid downturn in the economy which occurred at that time; and

**WHEREAS**, locating the Supreme Court in the Liberty Memorial Building would be a homecoming for the Court;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying the feasibility and desirability of renovating and constructing an addition to the Liberty Memorial Building or constructing a new building on the grounds of the state Capitol to serve as a new Supreme Court building; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the study include input from the Supreme Court and the Office of Management and Budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the study consider the feasibility and desirability of relocating the State Library or constructing a new building on the grounds of the State Capitol for the State Library, and the relocation of other agencies occupying the Liberty Memorial Building; and

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

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3026**

(Representatives Hanson, Klemin) (Senator Larson)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying improving re-entry outcomes for incarcerated adults and youth.

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota releases about 1,400 prisoners each year from state prisons and thousands more from county jails; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota has a range of public and private programs that assist formerly incarcerated individuals in their transition back to society, including services related to employment, housing, and behavioral health services; and

**WHEREAS**, identifying improvements in re-entry services could reduce North Dakota's recidivism rate of 40.3 percent, which would save taxpayer dollars and improve lives; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota has a workforce shortage with more than 30,000 open jobs, so businesses would benefit if the state helped former offenders enter and stay in the workforce;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying improving re-entry outcomes for incarcerated adults and youth; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the study include an assessment of current public and private re-entry services, policies, practices, statutes, data, and resource allocation with the goal of identifying opportunities to implement research-based strategies proven to reduce recidivism, improve education and employment outcomes, and maximize resources for the greatest public safety and return on taxpayer dollars; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the assessment include examining re-entry services in the areas of correctional supervision, employment, job training, housing, transportation, support services, and behavioral health services; levels of collaboration across service systems; and current disparities in re-entry outcomes; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management may develop a working group to oversee the study which includes legislators, representatives from nonprofit organizations that assist with re-entry, community members with re-entry experience, and representatives from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, county jails, the Behavioral Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Supreme Court, job service or business community, adult and postsecondary education institutions, and tribal nations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in conducting the study, the Legislative Management may seek technical assistance, as appropriate, from the Council of State Governments' Justice Center or the Crime and Justice Institute; and

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

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3030

(Representatives Boschee, Brandenburg, Davis, Kempenich, Meier, Mitskog, Nelson) (Senators Kreun, Mathern)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying homelessness and barriers to housing, including consideration of the effectiveness of the RentHelp program; the provision of housing financial support; legal assistance programs available to tenants; state, local, or federal educational programs for tenants and landlords regarding rights and responsibilities; month-to-month eviction rates by human service zone area; definitions of homelessness or homeless rates used by government entities; barriers to accessing housing; the manner in which homeless children receive services; historical rates of homelessness; and how a community based approach to homelessness may reduce rates of homelessness.

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, 5,622 people experienced homelessness in North Dakota, 1,341 of whom were under the age of 19; and

**WHEREAS**, 610 people in the state were identified as homeless in one night in a 2022 Point-in-Time count; and

**WHEREAS**, the state does not have an entity designated to provide assistance to renters to navigate leases; and

**WHEREAS**, the state received an estimated \$363.7 million in COVID-19 relief funds to provide housing, rent, homelessness, and utility support to North Dakotans; and

**WHEREAS**, there are multiple barriers that may impact an individual's ability to rent or own a home;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying homelessness and barriers to housing, including consideration of the effectiveness of the RentHelp program; the provision of housing financial support; legal assistance programs available to tenants; state, local, or federal educational programs for tenants and landlords regarding rights and responsibilities; month-to-month eviction rates by human service zone area; definitions of homelessness or homeless rates used by government entities; barriers to accessing housing; the manner in which homeless children receive services; historical rates of homelessness; and how a community based approach to homelessness may reduce rates of homelessness; and

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

Filed March 22, 2023

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3034

(Representatives Mock, D. Anderson, Ista, Roers Jones, M. Ruby) (Senators Burckhard, Rummel)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying sustainable energy policies to maximize the economic viability of existing energy sources, assess future demands on electricity in the state, and determine the feasibility of advanced nuclear energy development and transmission in the state.

**WHEREAS**, a review of existing state regulations is necessary in order to enable the construction and operation of advanced nuclear reactors; and

**WHEREAS**, evaluating the economic feasibility, siting, and development for new advanced nuclear reactors and the safety and waste stream resulting from the construction and operation of advanced nuclear reactors would be valuable information for the development of energy industries in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining the reliability of the electric grid includes evaluating the reliability and potential benefits of nuclear energy; and

**WHEREAS**, the nuclear power industry supports many jobs throughout the United States and contributes to the local and national economy; and

**WHEREAS**, nuclear power plants operate safely and at a higher capacity than renewable energy sources and fossil fuels;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying sustainable energy policies to maximize the economic viability of existing energy sources, assess future demands on electricity in the state, and determine the feasibility of advanced nuclear energy development and transmission in the state; and

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

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3035**

(Representatives Satrom, Grueneich, Karls, Ostlie) (Senators Conley, Dwyer, Paulson) (Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

A concurrent resolution commending Taiwan's vibrant democracy, celebrating the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of North Dakota's sister-state relationship with Taiwan, recognizing North Dakota's trade relationship and academic exchange program with Taiwan, supporting the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Trade, and advocating for Taiwan's inclusion in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity and international organizations that are important to the health, safety, and well-being of Taiwan's people and the world.

WHEREAS, the State of North Dakota and Taiwan entered a sister-state relationship in 1986; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Dakota and Taiwan have a long-standing and mutually beneficial relationship, as both partners enjoy close ties in two-way trade; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan and the United States have conducted negotiations under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Trade launched on June 1, 2022, to incentivize innovation and inclusive economic growth between North Dakota and Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan, as a contributor to peace and stability in the global community, a provider of aid, and a high-tech manufacturing hub, is seeking to meaningfully participate in the World Health Organization, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Civil Aviation Organization, and the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity launched by the United States on May 23, 2022;

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

That the 68<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly commends Taiwan's vibrant democracy, celebrates the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of North Dakota's sister-state relationship with Taiwan, recognizes North Dakota's trade relationship and academic exchange program with Taiwan, supports the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Trade, and advocates for Taiwan's inclusion in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity and international organizations that are important to the health, safety, and well-being of Taiwan's people and the world; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, United States Secretary of State, Governor of the Taiwan Provincial Government, Prime Minister of Australia, Prime Minister of Brunei Darussalam, President of India, President of Indonesia, Prime Minister of Japan, President of the Republic of Korea, Prime Minister of Malaysia,

Prime Minister of New Zealand, President of the Philippines, President of the Republic of Singapore, Prime Minister of Thailand, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Chair of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization, and the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Denver, Colorado.

Filed April 25, 2023

#### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3036**

(Representatives Weisz, Klemin, Lefor, Nelson, Toman) (Senators Hogue, Klein) (Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress not to support legislation, or other efforts, relating to the adoption of a Central Bank Digital Currency in the United States.

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2022, President Joseph R. Biden issued Executive Order 14067, *Ensuring Responsible Development of Digital Assets*, establishing a broad interagency effort to study and develop a United States Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC); and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 14067 established an interagency effort to develop "Policy and Actions Related to United States Central Bank Digital Currencies"; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 14067 states, "within 180 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Director of National Intelligence, and the heads of other relevant agencies, shall submit to the President a report on the future of money and payment systems"; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 14067 states "the term 'central bank digital currency' or 'CBDC' refers to a form of digital money or monetary value, denomination in the national unit of account, that is a direct liability of the central bank"; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 14067 requires the Attorney General, together with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, provide the President a legislative proposal for a CBDC within 210 days of the executive order; and

**WHEREAS**, The Federal Reserve Bank of New York and 10 financial institutions completed testing of certain features related to a CBDC in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the CBDC under development and testing pursuant to Executive Order 14067 will include programmable design features that will control the ability of a person to freely utilize the CBDC; and

WHEREAS, a United States CBDC raises significant concerns over privacy for individuals and businesses in North Dakota; and

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of a CBDC by the federal government would be an unacceptable expansion of federal authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of a CBDC by the federal government would hand unprecedented control over the lives, freedoms, choices, and sovereignty of the people of North Dakota to the Federal Reserve;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

### REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges Congress not to support legislation, or other efforts, relating to the adoption of a Central Bank Digital Currency in the United States; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leaders of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, the Secretary of the Treasury, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.