

**Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2003**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3072
(Representatives Glassheim, Drovdal, Ekstrom, Keiser, Tieman, Warner)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study possible methods of growing North Dakota's population, including approaches to decreasing outmigration and increasing in-migration and reviewing how other states are dealing with related population issues.

WHEREAS, over the past 10 years North Dakota has experienced a population growth rate of one-half of one percent, which is the lowest growth rate in the nation and is substantially less than the growth rate of neighboring states; and

WHEREAS, the average age of all North Dakotans is continuing to increase, resulting in a reduction in the available workforce in the state; and

WHEREAS, not only is the state's population below the level necessary to sustain adequate funding for schools, rural health, emergency care, infrastructure, and other essential services, but these problems are even more severe in the rural areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis-St. Paul urban center is projected to grow by 680,000 people over the course of the next 17 years, which could be a pool of possible recruits to move to North Dakota;

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

That the Legislative Council study possible methods of growing North Dakota's population, including approaches to decreasing outmigration and increasing in-migration and reviewing how other states are dealing with related population issues; and

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

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2003,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State